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# THE AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES OF CANADA.

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REPORT OF COLONEL FRANCIS FANE,  
Fulbeck Hall, Grantham,  
A Member of the Tenant-Farmer Delegation,  
On his Visit to the Dominion in 1890.

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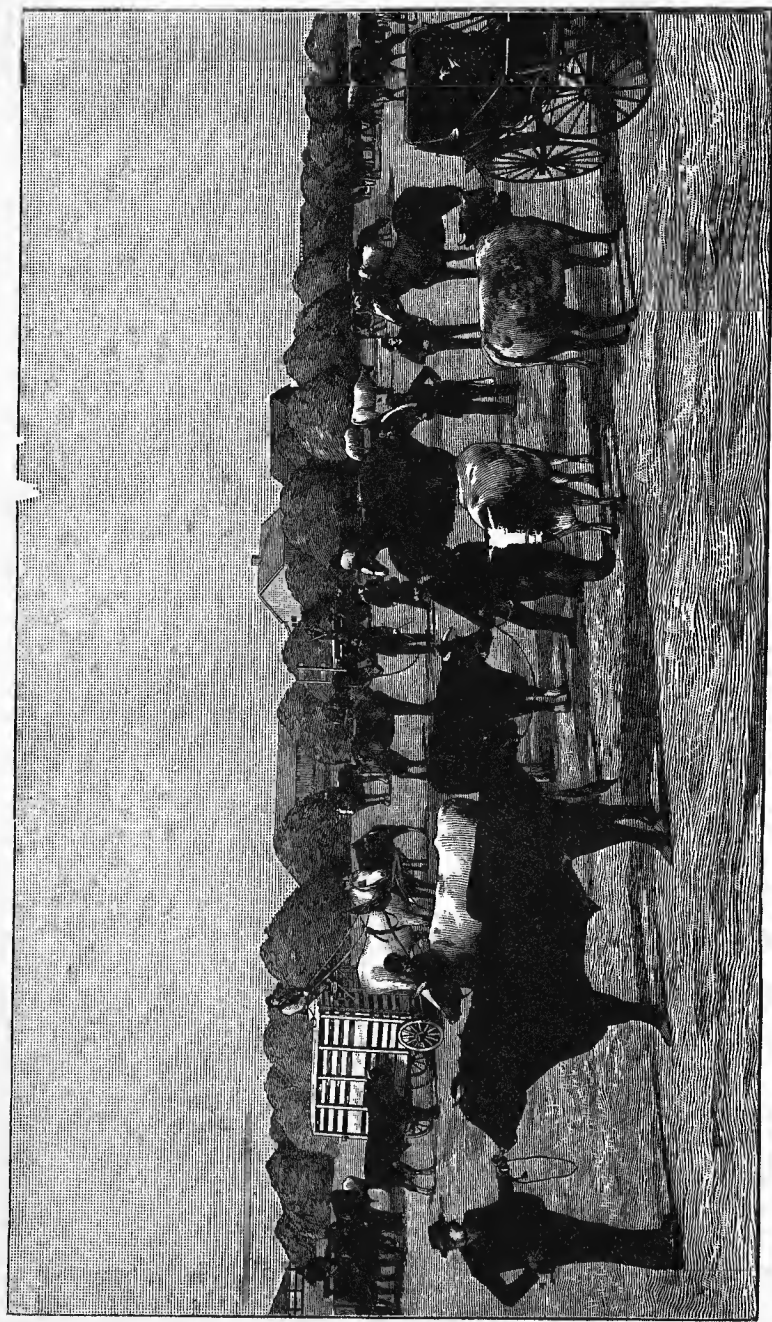
1891.

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FARM SCENE IN MANITOBA—THE BERESFORD STOCK FARM.

# The Report of Colonel Francis Fane,

FULBECK HALL, GRANTHAM.

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## "Canada"—Another name for "Opportunity."

THE Canadian Government having resolved, during the autumn of 1890, to invite a number of British farmer delegates to visit the Dominion, for the purpose of examining into, and reporting upon, its merits as a field for emigration, I applied to Sir Charles Tupper, the High Commissioner for Canada resident in England, to be one of the men to be appointed in the above capacity. Sir Charles Tupper was kind enough to grant my request. I left Liverpool in company with several of my brother delegates on board the Allan s.s. "Circassian" on Thursday, 28th August, and landed again at Liverpool from the Allan s.s. "Parisian" on 22nd November, 1890.

The result of my observations is embodied in the following Report:—

Left home August 28th. Went by train to Manchester and to Liverpool. Went to Allan steamship office; introduced to some of the delegates to Canada. Embarked at 5 p.m. at docks. Left about same time from wharf, but did not leave the docks finally till about 8. Crossed the bar about 10.

Aug. 29.—Got to Moville about three, but stayed there till seven, waiting for the mail. Country looked pretty and fairly inhabited about Moville.

Well out of sight of land. Fine, but very cold. Good deal of swell; many sick. I feel quite well. The clergyman on board—Mr. Edwards, from near Torrington—introduced himself to me; asked me to come to a short service on deck which he held; helped with the singing. Afterwards had conversation with an old man from Norfolk, who had been home to see a daughter. He went to Canada 15 years ago with eight children. His experience was of the roughest, but he said he was glad he went.

Had service in cabin at 10.30, and I helped the clergyman at three in the afternoon in the "intermediate." This is a part where respectable people of a better class take berths. It was light, and the cabins good. Numbers of children, who seemed very little affected by the weather. But things were untidy—plates, &c., left about, and cabin beds not made up. It strikes me that ladies, instead of going as missionaries to Africa, would do much good as nurses, &c., on these emigrant ships.

Had a talk with a man taking out two stallions to near London. Had been there several years, and seemed to have done well.

The Rev. Mr. Edwards says he does not interfere in the schools. Attendance good. Education free. His school has about 60; attend-

ance, 45. Schoolmaster gets about £80 a year. No sewing taught. No religious instruction. The only religious instruction given is at Sunday schools.

The wages of servants, &c., in Toronto seem enormous. A groom and gardener of Dr. Grasett's receives about 35s. a week: conductors of tram-cars, 37s.; drivers, about the same. Parlourmaid, £25 a year; housemaid, £24 a year; kitchenmaid, £20. Beef, 6d. a lb.; mutton, 5d.

Talked to several intermediate and steerage passengers. They said that the Bible and a prayer were read every day in their schools, but no teaching of sewing; this, they said, was a great defect. The Wesleyan minister visited the school at times.

One nice-looking woman was going out to join her husband at Vancouver—a coachman; they were to get £120 a year, and £1 a month bonus to be put into Savings Bank, to be given at end of three years.

One farmer seemed to have done very well. He and his wife had been to England, but did not wish to stay there. Had bought 50 acres 20 years ago, and two 50's since. Had a good deal of stock, which they sold. Consumed all their own produce. One son they sent to the High School at Simcoe (boarding him with another boy), and mean to send another son. The latter had failed in his examination, but was going to try again. They find all their own books, &c., but the education fees did not amount, I understood, to above \$1 a month. They board their son with friends at 8s. 4d. a week of 5 days, as the son is at home the other days.

The taxes are all included in rates, &c. J. Dyer came with £70. Gave £220 for his 50 acres. His 150 acres are now valued for assessment at \*\$2,200 (£440); for this he pays about £5 a year in taxes. This includes school and all other rates. All his girls milk. Milk goes to factory. Has 25 beasts, 10 horses, 35 pigs, and a few sheep. Consumes all his own food, with little exception. There are cheese factories all over the country.

It appears that though sewing is not taught in country schools, it is so in some towns. Expense prevents the former where masters only are employed.

Sept. 5.—Passed the Straits of Belle Isle about 2.30 a.m. Not much fog; good deal of sea on.

I went over the fore part of the ship to-day with the head steward. As people were recovering, it was very clean. The passengers pay £4 and £6 for steerage and intermediate, and from £12 upwards for cabin. There seems a great difference between the two last, as the cabins of the intermediate are very good. Of course the food is not like the "cabin," but all seems wholesome and plentiful. The steerage people sleep, men in hammocks, women in cabins with long trays, holding about 12 in a cabin. I saw all the stores, food, &c., which seemed excellent.

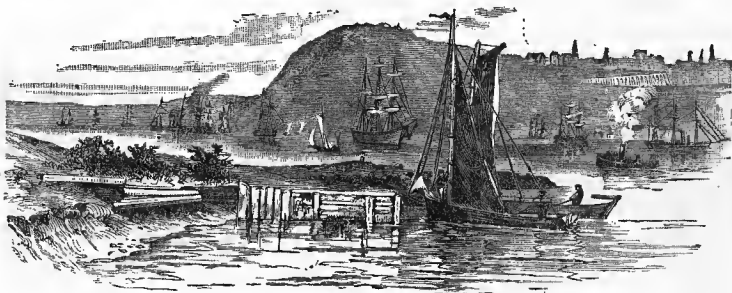
I have hunted about for "labourers," but most of those who are going out start earlier in the year. I found a fine middle-aged Irishman to-day from the North of Ireland. He was going out with

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\* Cent = ½d.; \$1 = 4s. 2d.; \$4.87 = £1.



a fine family—three young men and three girls. All the latter could milk. A grand family to get hold of. All well dressed. But, unfortunately, he tells me he is going to Illinois, to join two of his children. There is also a maltster on board from Lichfield. He said he was quite satisfied to stay in England, but his wife wanted him to go to America. He was getting 24s. a week in England, and 1s. for Sundays. He seemed to doubt if he would better himself. But he was a fine man, with five years' character, and would probably get very high wages in Canada, as he had been used to all kinds of work; probably, they say, £2 a week. He could get a good house at Lichfield at 3s. a week.



VIEW OF QUEBEC.

Sept. 7.—Disembarked at Quebec. Drove to Price's, at Wolfscfield. I see a great change in Quebec since I saw it in 1866. Many large buildings have been erected, new docks built, and a good part of the river made dry and turned into wharfs. The streets in the town, however, are as bad as ever. Outside the turnpike gate, very good. The horses were miserable specimens of weeds, and I saw none of the dear little Canadian horses of former days. I was charged 6s. for a carriage to Wolfscfield,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles; turnpike, 9d.

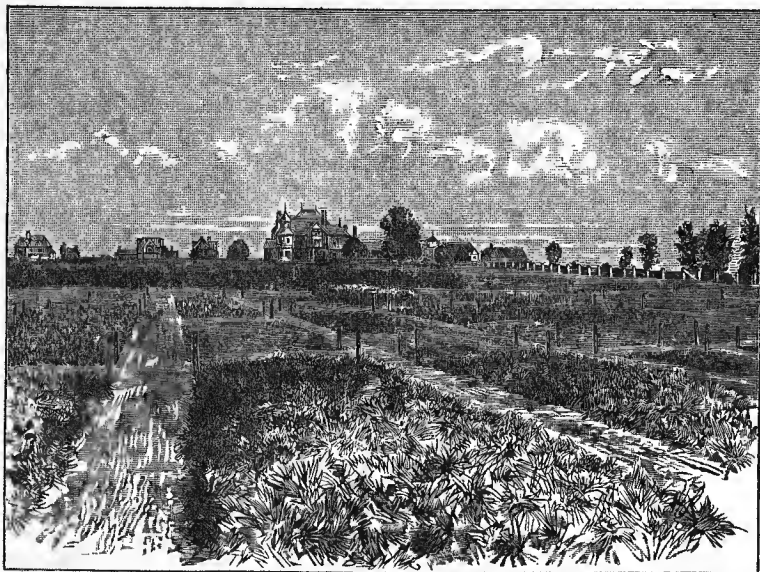
I went over the garden and small farm at Wolfscfield, and was astonished at the luxuriance of the growth of flowers—asters, marigolds, large balsams, sunflowers, and single dahlias—the two latter almost shrubs. Tomatoes grown on sticks like vines in France. The lawn grass was very poor, though much pains was taken with it. The Indian corn, swedes, mangolds, and carrots were quite as good as anything we had in England. Good deal of disease among the potatoes.

Sept. 8.—Left Quebec for Ottawa. Very hot; but a heavy rain after cooled the air. Went through a poor country, and had to wait  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hours at St. Martin's Station; very indifferent and dark. Got some coffee, &c., at refreshment bar; no liquor sold. Miserable crops of oats; very little of it cut.

Saw a placard at this station—"Wanted, 4,000 men for the North-West; wages, 30 to 40 dollars, with board." (I suppose to finish the harvest.)

Sept. 9.—Arrived at Ottawa—11 hours from Quebec. Met the other delegates. Went together to call on Mr. Carling, the Minister of

**Agriculture.** Went with Mr. Small to see the Government Buildings, Water Works, a saw-mill; and after luncheon to Experimental Farm—450 acres. Saw good specimens of oats grown this year; better than last year's English. Some good barley (Prize Prolific). Excellent swedes.

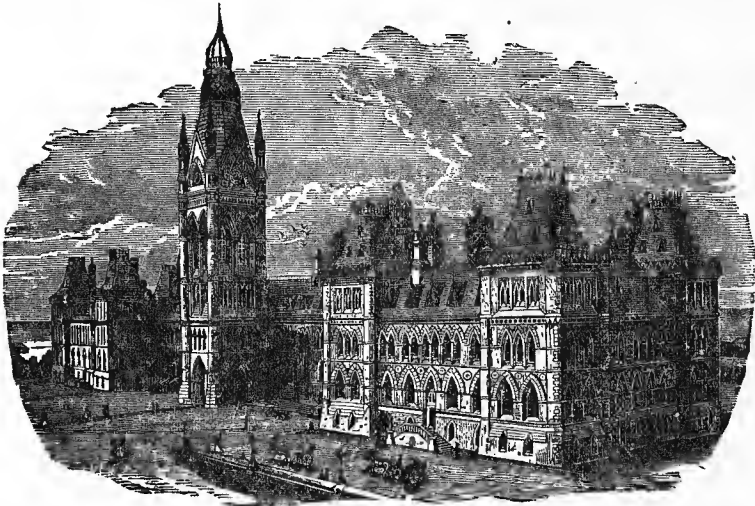


EXPERIMENTAL FARM, OTTAWA.

Short white carrots weighed 5 lbs. a couple, about 18 tons grown to acre. ("Canadian Triumph" oats.) Examined several kinds of potatoes in the rows. Curiously enough, the red ones were sound; many of the others had scab. The best were Early Rose, Early Ohio, Lee's Favourite, May Queen. The Schoolmaster and Champions have not done well this year. Yield of the other potatoes was good.

Several bulls are kept, mostly of the Dutch breed; the cows of this breed are supposed to produce most milk. No horses or sheep at present on the farm. All kinds of grasses, trees, &c., are experimented on at this farm; also poultry fattening and breeding. There is also an excellent laboratory, free to all farmers without cost. Small parcels of seed are also distributed for experimental purposes to farmers who wish for it; the post delivers samples free of cost. Much use is also made of Indian corn cut green, with the cob three-quarter ripe, as silo. It is cut with a steam engine, and the stuff carried by an endless chain to the chamber. It is difficult to conceive anything better as silo. The Hon. Mr. Carling, the Minister of Agriculture, was kind enough to show us the Experimental Farm, and he and Mr. Small arranged all matters to make our expedition agreeable.

Mr. Carling was kind enough to say that all matters connected with our route, &c., would be left pretty much to ourselves.



PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS, OTTAWA.

Mr. Small took us all over the magnificent Government Buildings, which would be difficult to beat in any part of the world. He took us also to the Water Works, where water was thrown up about 150 feet, entirely by water-power. Also, we saw some beautiful saw-mills belonging to Messrs. Powell and others. It is needless for me to write upon them; but I may say, to show the wondrous power of water, and the large business carried on in sawn timber at Ottawa, that 500 million of feet are sawn in the six months that the river is usable, and that one firm saws out 300,000 feet a day. This is all done without steam by the Ottawa River. In the saw-mill we saw, 600 men worked. The wages of men averaged 32s. a week, and boys of 14 or 15 got 4s. a day. They work 11½ hours on a shift, night and day. It must be remembered, however, that the work goes on for six months only; they have to work at low wages, or go to the woods, &c., if they wish to get anything in the winter. Many of the men go to the States during the winter to factories, &c.

J. Price had telegraphed to have my name put down at the Rideau Club. I went there in the evening intending to write up my journal, but Mr. Powell, one of the owners of the saw-mill we visited this morning, introduced himself to me, and made himself so agreeable that I did not put pen to paper.

I forgot to say that this afternoon I went to pay my respects to the Premier, Sir J. A. Macdonald. I recollected him well, having known him when I was in Canada 25 years ago. He was as hale as ever, and gave me a hearty welcome to Canada. A band was playing

in the Square, a great number of people listening. They belonged to the Ottawa Guards, and were dressed like ours; they finished with "God Save the Queen."

Sept. 10.—All other delegates went to Toronto to-night. I left Ottawa at 7.30 a.m. I asked a newspaper boy, of whom there are hundreds, when he went to school. He said from 9 to 4; beyond those hours he sold newspapers.

We went by train (two hours) to Prescott, through a very poor district, with many swamps, and few cattle or horses. People got in at various stations, whose dress was quite out of character with the surroundings. I was told, however, by some very pleasant farmers I met that there is a very good country further back, with good farms. Each farmer on an average would have about 10 or 12 cows. All the milk goes to the cheese factories, is weighed, and the whey is taken back by the farmer. All the cheese made is sold new; old cheese not appreciated.

These cheese factories are scattered all over the country, and are a most important industry. At present the cheese is worth  $9\frac{1}{2}$  cents a lb., but the average for the year would not be above 8 cents (4d.). At this rate cheese-making pays.

I made acquaintance with a cattle dealer. He said that he paid 2d. a lb. for stores, live weight (weight guessed at), but he said stores were almost as dear as fat beasts (as in England this spring). Beef, 3d. to 5d. a lb.; mutton, 3d. to 4d.; lamb, at Easter, 5d.

Cows much wanted, as the more milk that could be gathered for each factory the cheaper the cheese could be made. The Government send round teachers to the factories on application. A teacher gets £1 a lecture from Government, and probably the same from the factory. Butter factories have not answered.

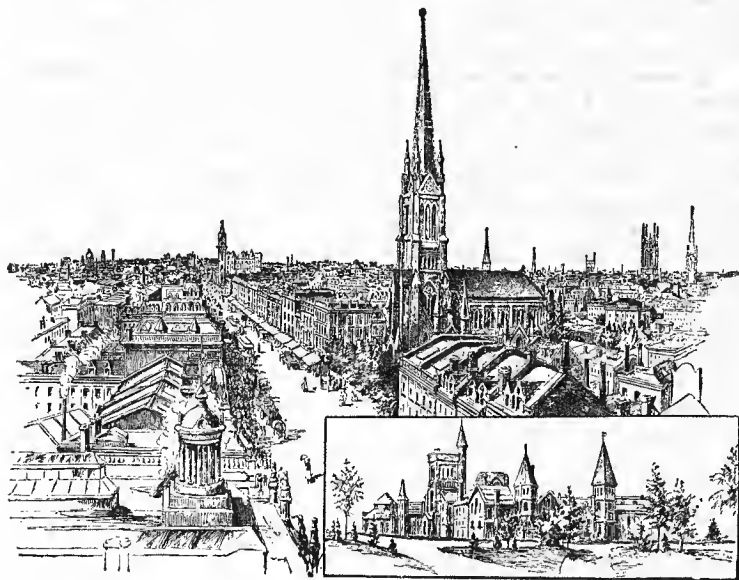
Took the boat at Prescott, and passed through the Thousand Islands all day. At Brockville there are pretty cottages built on every island, and at Alexandria (on the American shore) are splendid hotels, with steam launches, &c. Many rich Americans, such as Pulman, Warner ("Safe Cure"), &c., have beautiful houses on the Canadian islands. Got to Kingston at 3.30, and remained till 5. Place much altered since I was there; many good shops and streets, and some fine buildings. Not a decent horse to be seen.

Bought some peaches that are grown in the Ontario district. This is supposed to be a very bad year for fruit, but the flavour of the peaches was good. Gave 10 cents (5d.) for 6 peaches. There were some good-coloured grapes, damsons, apples, and greengages in the shops.

Embarked on board the boat again at 5, and ran on through the night on Lake Ontario. There was a good deal of swell—quite enough to make some people sick. We had our meals on board—the last at 6. Arrived at Toronto at 7 a.m. on the 11th.

Dr. Grasett, a cabin companion of mine on board the "Circassian," had been kind enough to ask me (though a total stranger to him) to come and stay with him at his house in Toronto, as the hotel would be crowded owing to the "Fair." I gladly accepted the invitation. As it was, however, very early when I arrived, I went first to the "Queen's" Hotel, and was able to be shaved and get my breakfast there.

In the meantime, Dr. Grasett had taken the trouble to go to meet me at the boat, and missed me. The people at the hotel took a deal of trouble to telephone for me, &c., and seemed in no way put out by my not stopping with them.



TORONTO.

I found at the hotel the emigration agent for Ontario, Mr. Smith, and arranged to go to Hamilton one day to visit some farms where boys are located, &c.

The whole of the other delegates, I found, had gone to Niagara with Mr. Small, the obliging Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, so I was left to my own devices. It was an unfortunate day for them as well as myself, for it poured incessantly the whole day. I went after breakfast to Dr. Grasett's, where I found his delightful wife, and a most comfortable house.

As the rain declined to stop, I started at 12 for the Toronto Fair. I must explain that this is not quite like our exhibitions; there are numerous buildings, many of them permanent, scattered over about 40 acres of ground on public land  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles from the centre of the town. This property is given over for two months in the year to a large committee, consisting of all the leading inhabitants of Toronto. Here are held exhibitions of horses, cattle, trotters, fruit, dogs, work, agricultural implements, and many other things too numerous to mention. To this are added amusements, lacrosse contests, a "Wild West" exhibition, acrobats, and also a children's day, when all the children of the district assemble, and amuse and show themselves.

There is also a large building filled with stalls containing all the best work of the district. I saw in this building some beautiful book-binding, equal to anything in Europe, I should think.

The day was so unfortunate (I had to wade through a sea of mud and water) that I could not see much, and all outdoor amusements, judging, &c., were stopped. It is lucky it is not a three days' affair, like our exhibitions: it goes on from the 8th to the 20th inst.

As soon as I got on the ground, I went to the Central Committee Rooms, where I was most kindly received by the vice-president, Captain McMaster, Mr. Ridout, and others, whose names I did not catch. Various members of the committee were told off to go with me to different departments, and the vice-president asked me to join him and a "few others" at luncheon at 1. This I did, and to my horror found a sumptuous repast, with about 50 or 60 people at it. I was placed on the right of the president, so I knew I was in for a speech; and it was so. After the Queen's health was drunk, mine was also, and I had to return thanks. I had not much difficulty in doing so (much as I hated the effort), because I felt I was among a kindly and friendly people.

I may remark that no liquor is allowed to be sold in the Exhibition grounds, so we drank healths in milk, &c.—a good precedent. I afterwards visited the machinery, but saw nothing very new—all implements much lighter than ours. One good plan I remarked, viz.: most of the small machines were worked, for the purpose of exhibition, by either electric or steam power, I don't know which. It explained them much better than we do. I saw a good arrangement for loading sacks out of a winnowing machine, a potato digger, and a very light drill, all made of English steel.

It was almost impossible to see the horses; but I saw a fair Clydesdale stallion—"Nelson," by "Another Day." His stock was very good.

Sept. 12.—Visited, and was made honorary member of, the Toronto Club—a new building, most elegantly fitted up, with some of the most beautiful woodwork, chimney-pieces, carpets, &c., I have seen for some time. All was in the very best taste, and reflected great credit on the architect, Mr. Darling, of Toronto, and London, England.

I sat in the Police Court some little time with Colonel Denison, the chief magistrate, and witnessed a case or two tried. Matters carried on pretty much as in our own courts. Police a splendid body of men, dressed like our police. There are 300 in the town; they average nearly six feet in height. As they are not numerous for the population, the telephone system is much worked in managing police affairs. A pair-horse carriage and ambulance are kept at the Police Court; and if a man is found drunk in the streets, the carriage is telephoned for, and is soon on the spot. I witnessed the start of the carriage when a signal was given, and in a quarter of a minute the conveyance was ready to move. The whole of the police are under Colonel Grasett, an old officer of the 100th, and brother of my kind friend the doctor. He married a Miss Parke, of Dorsetshire.

I afterwards went to the Law Courts—a splendid building, with

library and every convenience for the lawyers. Four judges were sitting in the Appeal Court, presided over by Chief-Justice Haggerty, a most agreeable gentleman (a fellow-passenger of ours). The advocates wear gowns, but no wigs. Matters seemed carried on with quite the same dignity as in our courts.

One of the most interesting exhibitions I went to was the Central Telephone Office, where I saw about 30 young women in one room manipulating the instruments. The system (which was fully explained to me by the obliging director) would take far too much space for me to explain; but it was most wonderful, and quite new to me. I believe the telephone is used far more here than in England. In Toronto nearly every large house has a telephone, and I have used it constantly while staying here. There are 2,400 subscribers in Toronto. A private house pays £6; a medical man, £8; a business house, £10 a year.

If a cab is wanted, or an invitation to luncheon is given, it is done by telephone; and even a doctor, when summoned, can be informed of the kind of illness, and be prepared with his instruments, &c., before he leaves his house for his patient. It comes in usefully in a thousand ways, and if brought into use in London would, I fancy, half ruin the cabmen, as so much travelling of long distances in search of friends would be saved. I spoke quite easily to the young woman in charge of the telephone at Guelph, 50 miles away.

The only drawback is the wear and tear of mind to the operators. The constant jabber going on in the operating room must be wearing. The young women sit with the instrument fastened on to their heads, so as to be free with their hands. The place where they worked was hot and low; but a new building will be ready in about two years. The pay of the lady operators is poor—£4 a month; but it is much sought after, as it is "genteel" work.

I visited the market, and had interesting conversation with butchers and others. The show of fruit and vegetables, except melons and apples, was poor. This is a very bad year for peaches, but there were numbers in the market, all from the neighbourhood of Niagara. No salad lettuce can be grown at this time of the year, but they get it in spring and autumn.

The meat looked to me poor and thin; mutton indifferent—mostly called lamb (really young mutton now). Veal seemed good.

The following prices were given to me by a friendly butcher as prices he paid:—

|                             |     |     |     |                      |
|-----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|----------------------|
| Beef—Live weight            | ... | ... | ... | 4 cents = 2d.        |
| Dead "                      | ... | ... | ... | 7 " = 8½d.           |
| Leg of mutton (sold retail) | ... | ... | ... | 14 " = 7d.           |
| Fowls (indifferent)         | ... | ... | ... | 8s. a couple.        |
| Turkeys, at Christmas       | ... | ... | ... | 12 cents (6d.) a lb. |

Very little what we should call fresh pork used—I mean porkets such as I should kill for house use, of about 70 lbs. a pig, dead weight.

I tasted the butter, all of which seemed sweet and "smell-less," but very salt. Prices were—16 cents (8d.) a lb., 18 cents (9d.) a lb., and 20 cents (10d.) a lb. The latter was "creamery" butter from the

best factories. Cheese,  $9\frac{1}{2}$  cents (5d.) a lb.; skimmed milk, 6 cents (3d.). The first cheese seemed good and firm, and not too strong—I should say better than the ordinary cheese we get in village shops in England.

In driving about Toronto one is amazed at the beauty of the public buildings, avenues, open spaces, &c.; though many of the latter look unfinished, as may well be, as in ten years Toronto has increased from 80,000 to 200,000 inhabitants. The roads are most abominable, except in a few streets where asphalt is used; and the tramways are a dreadful nuisance to all carriage drivers, because the lines are so badly laid. This, no doubt, will be remedied in a few years. I hardly saw what I should call a nice horse in the whole city. A better stamp of horse must be bred before that can become a commercial industry.

I visited the Fair on several days. It lasted from the 8th to the 20th September. It was well attended always, and one day there were 70,000 people present. There were few police about, and all the people were well dressed and most orderly. During the last week the Exhibition gradually developed, and the show became most excellent. The show of cattle, sheep, and pigs, was most excellent, and would do credit to any exhibition. There were entries in horses, sheep, cattle, and pigs. There was a most excellent dog show in a new building that had cost \$8,000. I was told that the dog show arrangements were superior to anything on this continent. Then there was a children's day, when the children showed off their drill, &c. We had an interesting episode also of a cowboy stopping a runaway horse. A collection was made for him, and \$50 contributed in a few minutes by the company.

In one building was an excellent display of honey. In another an excellent display of the products from Manitoba. The oats were particularly fine; peas likewise. Wheat almost all of one kind—Red Fife, spring wheat. Very clean and dry, but small in grain. There was a shed also of products from Vancouver. I had not time to examine them very critically. The thinnest skinned oats I examined were some Black "Étamps." I saw some excellent oats also, shown by a farmer—Mr. Rennie, near Brighton, Ontario. Most of the corn was grown from seed sent out to farmers by those excellent institutions, the Government Experimental Farms.

There were some good Clydesdales shown. The fees for a horse called "Kenilworth" were \$10; another horse's fees, \$13 and \$14. These fees are not paid till the following year, in March or so. The breeding stock of general purposes horses did not impress me; but the line they went on was good, namely, to give prizes for the best groups of stock by one horse. One mare ("Lucy Lightfoot") and foal would have done credit in any ring.

I thought the arrangements for judging were indifferent and puzzling, as other horses and people were in and out of the various groups that were being judged while judging was going on. This should be corrected.

I saw no trotting stallion of any particular merit, except one old chestnut horse, whose name I unfortunately did not get. I drove him myself in a sulky, and he went in perfect form, and had lovely manners.



The Wild West was well represented each day. This included attack on coach, &c. There was some good shooting also by cowboys.

The committee of the Show, headed by Capt. McMaster, were most unremitting in their attention to the delegates, and we saw everything in the most comfortable way. We can never forget their kindness and hospitality to us. It was most fortunate that we were at Toronto at the time of the Show, as it gave us such an excellent opportunity of seeing the capabilities of this country.

During the last day we were at Toronto the fruit and flowers were exhibited. This is the worst year for fruit for many years, but there was an excellent display of beautifully coloured peaches, an immense number of pears, apples, plums, pumpkins, melons, and grapes grown out of doors. The flowers were fine in colour, but the arrangements of the cut flowers poor; crowding them together seemed of more importance than elegance. The beauty of the asters, dahlias, balsams, &c., showed, however, what can be done if the land is properly cultivated.

I forgot to mention that I saw two famous horses at the Show. One jumped 6 ft. 8 in. to-day, and his owner backed him to clear 7 ft., as he had done in the States. He will do this one day at the Show. He was a very good-looking light-weight hunter, belonging to Messrs Moorhouse & Pepper.

Among other amusements provided on the stage was a contest between two boxers. They hammered one another pretty handsomely.

On one of the days we were at Toronto we visited the Agricultural College at Guelph, about 50 miles from Toronto. We were even longer than usual doing this journey, taking  $4\frac{1}{2}$  hours by rail. This gave us a very short time to see the institution and its neighbourhood. This is vacation time, so we did not see the young men, of whom there are about 100; but we saw their dormitories, &c. An excellent school of dairying is attached to the College, also veterinary lectures are given, and real practical work is done by the pupils. The fees are very small, and can in large part be recovered by pupils working extra hours on the farm. We were most hospitably entertained by Professor Shaw, the superintendent, who explained all the arrangements to us.

There was a large silo, in which Indian corn, cut in the cob, is put. It looked grand feeding stuff. I measured some of the Indian corn standing in the fields; it measured above 8 ft. It grows 18 to 20 tons to the acre.

We went to a large creamery attached to the farm, and the working was explained to us by so intelligent a gentleman that I longed to have him in Lincolnshire. They take in cream or milk from the neighbouring farms. Each sample is tested in a simple way, and the cream is paid for according to its butter-producing qualities. I gathered the following facts, but I may not be quite correct, as it is impossible to get a clear understanding when one goes about in half-dozens, as we did on this occasion:—9 to 10 lbs. of milk to a gallon; 5 lbs. of cream to 1 lb. of butter. Measurements are all made by the pound.

On our journey to Guelph we passed some of the best land we had

seen in the country, with many young horses in the fields, but few sheep. Country near Milton pretty. A good pressed brick is made in this part of the country. This is much used at Toronto, where the bricks used, though very pretty, are soft, and too full of sand. The autumn wheat was well up in some fields as we went to Guelph.

We had a short time to spare at Guelph, so we drove to two neighbouring farms, belonging to two excellent farmers, but could see them only in a hurried way. One was the property of Mr. Stone, who owned some 300 Herefords, and farmed 900 acres of land. They were of a remarkably fine breed, and had been in his possession many years. He used to get large prices for them at his sales, but their value has much diminished of late. He is to have a sale of 150 next month.

His neighbour was a Mr. McCrae, a noble-looking old Scotchman, who came out here with nothing 30 or 40 years ago. He owns the best breed of Galloways in this country. Had some very good Clydesdale mares, and had grown 80 bushels of oats to the acre. His land was excellently farmed, with plenty of manure. The stubble showed what had been on the land. His only daughter milked the only cow they kept for their own use. One son worked on the farm, and another lived in Guelph. He had done well, and all upon a 100-acre farm, I believe. I understood, however, that he had another small farm elsewhere. He kept two farm labourers. He paid them highly—£36 and £33, and board, a year.

There are several handsome churches in Toronto. I went to St. James's on Sunday, September 14th. It is the oldest Episcopal church in Toronto. There are some beautiful painted windows in it in memory of the late Dean Grasett and his wife—the parents of my friend the doctor. The singing was good. Hymns—*Hymnal Companion*—an anthem that no one had a copy of, and a congregation and service such as one might see in a London church—not excepting the sing-song voice of the reader, whom it was impossible to hear. I think there were more men in the congregation than one is accustomed to see at home.

On Monday, the 15th, we started—a large party—to go to some of the public schools of Toronto. They are carried on much on the same lines as our schools board, and money seems as freely spent. The education is free, with the exception of some slight payment for books; and I am bound to say I never spoke to anyone of any class who is not perfectly satisfied with the working of them. The systems of ventilation, &c., are excellent, and the board and teachers most anxious to carry on matters well. The teachers are principally ladies, who receive pay on a graduated scale, varying from £60 to £140 a year.

Each child costs the State about £2 5s. a year. The children are kept at school much later in life than ours. I attended one of the classes managed by one of the teachers—Miss Sams—who seemed to have complete control over her pupils, one or two of whom were 17. She said the attendance was about 90 per cent. of those on the books. In the kindergarten class, which I also attended, the percentage was higher.

The schools open with the reading of the Bible, and prayer; but beyond this there is no religious instruction. The teaching of sewing is merely nominal, and voluntary. A small quantity of physical drill is taught. What I saw was poor in quality and quantity, and could do little towards setting up the children. They work from 9 to 4, with very little interval; of course the little ones have much less. I was delighted with the manners and teaching of the ladies in all the classes. The boys all stood up, saluted, and said, "Good morning," when a visitor appeared. No motion was made by the girls. They were all remarkably neatly dressed, and there was no evidence of poverty in any one child.

The schools are examined by an inspector (not Government), and a report made on each; but there is no payment by result, and no extra cramming for examinations in order to get a grant, as with us. I mention the common schools, but there are numerous high, veterinary, and other schools where the fees are almost nominal, and where excellent education is given. Denominational schools are sanctioned, and a share of taxation given to them. They have their own inspectors.

One of the most important factors in carrying on the management of land in Canada is the system of loan societies, of which there are about forty scattered over the Province of Ontario. The money is principally advanced by Scotch and English people, and it is difficult to say whether these societies have worked for good or evil in the country. It is undoubted that the land would not have been settled if they had not come to the assistance of the emigrants. The process seems something as follows:—A farmer has a farm on which he wishes to borrow some money. He goes to a loan society, and fills up a paper describing the supposed value of the land—how much improved, what stock there is on it—and the loan society sends its own inspector over the place. He makes his valuation, and if this is satisfactory, the loan society will advance 50 per cent. of the supposed valuation, taking a sort of mortgage on it. No stamps or lawyers are required. The interest paid upon the loans is now about  $6\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. in Ontario, and 8 per cent. in Manitoba. In the States I understand it is much higher.

To show what enormous business is done in this matter, one loan manager told me his firm had about 1,500 loans in Ontario, and the same number in Manitoba. He believed that fully 60 per cent. of the farms had money on loan on them. It shows the goodness of the land, if it can stand such a burthen as this, as well as give a profit to the farmer.

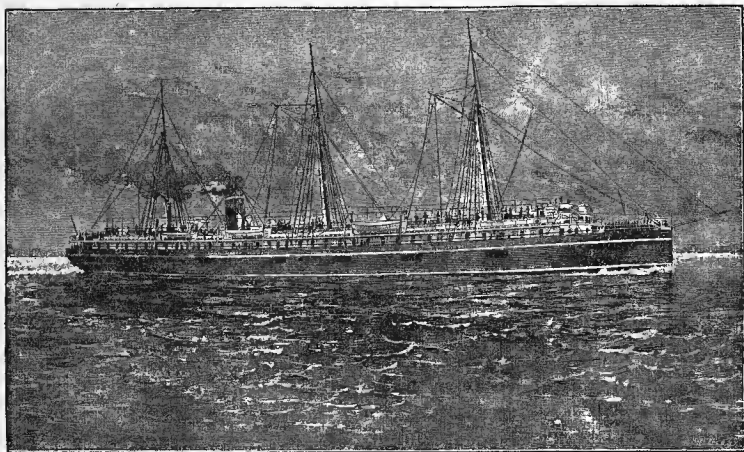
I asked if the land was not sometimes thrown on the hands of the loan societies, and found this was the case. One firm told me they had now one farm of 400 acres on their hands, which they would be glad to get \$15,000 for, and would require only 25 per cent. cash. They had another of 84 acres in Perth County, growing corn and fruit, for which they would take \$5,800, and leave the money on it at 6 per cent.

I drove two or three times in various directions about Toronto, and was amazed at the neatness and elegant appearance of numbers of the houses. The architecture is generally pretty—the bricks of a good

colour—and the grass and trees in front of many of the houses give a delightful appearance to the streets. I remarked the terrible want of flowers, which is so conspicuous in Canada, both in town and country, particularly the latter. This could be easily obviated, as there is no doubt flowers will grow as well or better than in England. I am told the German settlers, and also the French, show an excellent example in the cultivation of flowers round their houses. I hope the English and Scotch will some day follow suit.

I must now take leave of Toronto for a time. It is impossible to thank the people of that thriving city sufficiently for all their kindness and hospitality and attention to us delegates from Great Britain.

I left Toronto on the morning of the 17th September by train for Owen Sound, on Georgian Bay of Lake Huron. We passed through a pretty country, and at one or two places the farming seemed good. I saw only few sheep, and not many cattle. Some of the oats were uncut.



CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY LAKE STEAMER.

At Owen Sound I embarked at 4.30 on board a splendid steamboat—the “Athabasca”—and moved out into the bay at once. No vessels in sight, and only three or four gulls.

In the early morning of the 18th I found myself in a narrow channel, which required a good deal of careful navigation, and arrived at locks at Sault St. Marie (junction between the Lakes Huron and Superior) about 12.30. It took us about three hours to pass through, land cargo, &c., during which time I went on shore (on United States ground), and visited a small fort manned by United States infantry. I spoke to one man, and found he had been a sergeant in our service. He seemed to have remarkably good pay, as had the officers, but some of the latter were wonderfully old-looking for the position. The men seemed smart and well set up.

The only lock now at Sault St. Marie is on the American side. They are building a second lock; and on the Canadian shore large locks are also being constructed, so as to make them independent of the United States. There is an immense trade at this point, as a good deal of traffic from West to East Canada passes this way.

As the Lake Superior district contains large tracts of country covered with silver and copper mines, the traffic must greatly increase before long.

The shores of Lake Superior, especially on the north side, are hardly suitable to agriculture, as the soil is greatly mixed up with rock. Saw on a board at Sault St. Marie, "Visit F. W. Roache's for Ladies', Misses', and Children's Shoes." Though Sault St. Marie seemed a comparatively small place, there was electric lighting all over the town, and electric tram-cars running. The line was so rough that the cars pitched like a boat at sea.

Left at 3.30, and in about three hours got well into Lake Superior. It blew very strongly last night, and we pitched and rolled very much. The "Athabasca," however, is a splendid boat, so I had no fear. All the passengers were sick except four or five, including myself. Met on board an interesting gentleman—Mr. Hesson, M.P.P. for a part of Ontario. He came out with his mother, a widow, at three years of age, and is now an influential, well-to-do man. He seemed to have tried many trades before he succeeded in finding a suitable one. This seems the case with many.

We passed a grand lot of islands and points about 12 o'clock—among them a well-known one, Thunder Point—and passed into Thunder Bay, arriving at Port Arthur, a town on the west side of Thunder Bay, in Lake Superior, about 1.30 p.m., 19th September.

I found that instead of the train west waiting for us, there had been an accident, and it was seven hours late. I thought it would be a good plan to visit the schools in an out-of-the-way place like this, so I took my things to an hotel, and sallied out to find the schools. Of course I was assisted by everyone, especially a fine young Cumberland-bred man, whom I found in the freight office. I went to the public school, and found all the children neatly dressed and orderly, as usual, and the manager and mistresses charming in manner to their pupils. The attendance in four classes was as follows:—23 to 30, 27 to 30, 44 to 45, 42 to 49, 38 to 46. The school had been only opened for the term about a fortnight. Ministers come in to teach religion when they like—once a week generally; no difficulty. In one class recitations and reading only were going on, and no lessons this day; this was at the option of the teacher. Applause, &c., as in a penny reading, was given by the children. Drawing taught twice a week. An excellent plan adopted of giving a long sentence with words left out that could be spelt in three or four ways, such as "right," "write," &c.; these had to be filled in. Reading, too, was corrected by the children themselves.

I also visited a separate Roman Catholic school. They receive a grant the same as the others, and are inspected in the same way, and are not obliged to contribute to the public school. In the one I saw the girls were taught by a nun. In this school sexes were separate, but in all others they are mixed.

I got the best dinner I have had in the country at the hotel here, with splendid Early Rose potatoes, grown by the hotel-keeper. Two very nice-looking waitresses attended on us; they get £36 a-year wages, and their board.

There was electric light in this town (or village), and the shops and large stores were excellent. I saw some grand specimens of silver ore at the Museum.

The train came in about 9 o'clock, but it was 10.30 p.m. or so before we left Port Arthur. The train had been delayed by an accident, which nearly brought them to grief. We went on all night, and in the morning (20th) found ourselves travelling through a poor country, with rock and scrub, and numerous lakes, quite unsuited to agriculture. About 12 o'clock we passed a very pretty village or town—Rat Portage—with waterfalls and large timber works. Winnipeg gets its principal supplies of timber from this place.

Sept. 20.—We got to Winnipeg about 4.30, after a comfortable journey. The dining arrangements were most excellent—in fact, better than in the hotels. There is some little beginning of prairie about 20 miles from Winnipeg. A great deal of wheat and oats still uncarried; good deal of hay also uncarried. Land was much like our Lincolnshire Fens in colour.



WINNIPEG.

Sept. 21.—Being Sunday, I was determined to have a holiday, so I went to the English Episcopal service in the morning, and in the evening to the Congregational Church (to which we had all been invited). Both services were excellent—reading and preaching good, and singing better than you would hear in half the churches in England. They were both (especially the last) very well filled; in fact, I should not have got a place if I had not shown my card of invitation.

In the afternoon, three of us drove out into the country, and visited Sir D. Smith's farm, where we saw some splendid pedigree

beasts, and some American bison—almost the last that are left in Canada, though I believe there are a few tame herds in the States.

Arthur Willson had written to a great friend of his—Mr. Matheson, a banker at Winnipeg—to see after me; he kindly called as soon as I arrived, and arranged that we should visit Arthur's late farm, about 15 miles from the town. We were driven there by Mr. Egan, who bought the farm from the mortgagees, giving \$5,000 for the section (450 acres), equal to \$15 an acre.

We had a delightful drive over the prairie, seeing a good deal of cattle on the road, but not any very great quantity of wheat. It appeared to me most difficult to find the road, as the trails ran in all directions to small detached houses (called farm buildings); but we got to the farm at last, and were much surprised at its *magnificence*, compared to all the other farms we had seen. We had some tea there; saw some splendid crops of oats and wheat, and some fair stock. Mr. Egan reckoned to have a splendid crop this year; and he must have made a fine purchase, as the building looked worth \$4,000 or \$5,000. We had a delightful drive back, with a lovely sunset to look at.

There was a banquet that evening, to which all the delegates were invited. Left Winnipeg at 12 o'clock in our own "car" for Carman; went a short journey by a branch line: returned to Carman, and on to Glenboro'.

We passed some charming country, with slight hills, and saw no end of prairie hens and ducks. Some of the land was swampy, but it was most of it occupied, and near Treherne the land was good. Saw one French settlement and church. Asked a schoolmaster at Treherne about attendance; said 60 to 100. There are no police in this district. Plenty of schools. No local option, but think it will be in force next year. Saw Mr. Berry, a Leicester man, now a butcher. Has 350 acres; doing very well. Began with nothing. Was told of Mr. Purvis, a Gainsboro' man—an excellent farmer—doing well. There are a good many English about this station and Holland.

Sept. 24.—Slept at Glenboro', a nice little village. The party dispersed in the morning, some to visit crofters, others Icelanders; and a French delegate and I went to visit a French settlement at St. Alphonse.

We started on a capital grass road 99 feet wide (all the main roads in this part are this width; the roads well fenced, with four lines of barbed wire. Our road after a while was a very twisty one, through low hills, such as I recollect in India. We drove about 18 miles before we got to a chapel and school-house on the top of the hills. Here we found the curé in his solitude. We sat and ate our lunch in his house, and looked at the church and school, which was taught by a half-breed girl, who lived in a loft over the school, and looks after five of the little girls who prefer doing this to going back three or four miles each day. Being Roman Catholic, this was a separate school, and got no grant, by a new Manitoba law.

The colony consisted of about 700, scattered over some 15 square miles. It has four schools and one church. The population are all Belgian or French Canadians, and one Frenchman. The curé's life

must be a solitary one, but he has a horse and carriage to drive about and relieve the monotony of his existence.

The schoolmistress gets only £45 a year now. The curé told us that the Belgians were getting on very well, and none went back to Europe.

On this journey we saw a good deal of wheat that had been quite spoilt by a hailstorm in the spring, and was left uncut.

We drove back on a lovely evening. I killed two prairie hens out of the carriage, and as we approached Glenboro' thousands of ducks passed over our heads from the cornfields. It must be a grand country for flight shooting.

I saw on the road, at Cypress River, Mr. Mawby, a son of Mr. Mawby, of Bourne. He is doing well on an excellent farm. We saw this day near Cypress River some splendid land and crops. I was delighted with this part of the country, as were the other delegates. They found both crofters and Icelanders most contented. Some of our people had capital shooting at ducks on the road.

A French Canadian barber drove us to-day. To show what wages are earned in this country, he told us he could get about \$3 or \$4 five days in the week, and \$10 (£2) on Saturdays. I asked him what he did with all this money, and he said, "Spend it." He paid \$4 (16s.) a week for his board, and had to hire his shop.

We saw to-day, as we did constantly, the foals running by the carriages with their mothers. They go 8 or 10 miles a day without difficulty. I think this must give them the good action they have; and they certainly look wonderfully well, never being deprived of their milk.

Sept. 25.—Left Glenboro' in four carriages for Plum Creek (late Souris), about 57 miles.

Passed through a grand country the whole way to a village called Wawanesa (late Souris City). Thousands of acres of wheat, stacked, and being carted; stacks, two and two, scattered all over the country.

Stopped to talk to two excellent English farmers—Mr. Watson, who had been a keeper in Yorkshire, who started four years ago without a cent; and Mr. Smeaton, who seemed a moneyed man. Both seemed doing wonderfully well; had good houses, surrounded by trees.

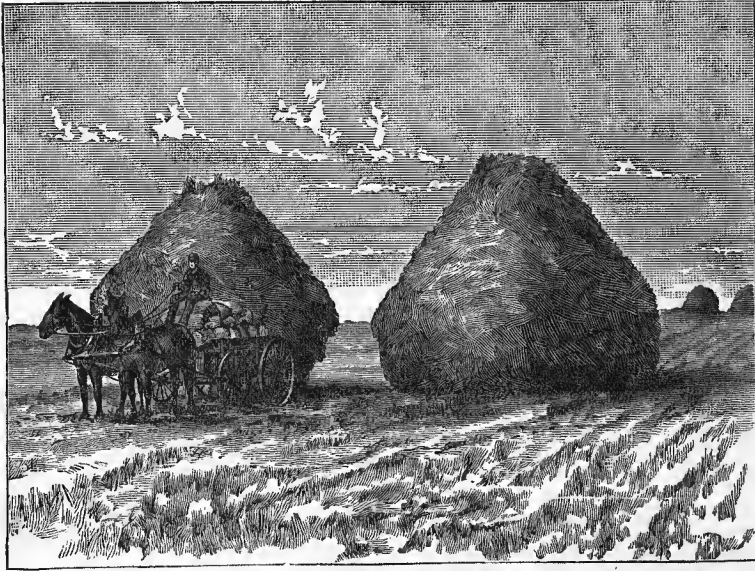
Watson had only 160 acres of land, of which he will fallow half next year. He has this year 120 acres of wheat and 10 acres of oats. He has five sons to help him; he and they do all the work. Worked first year on other land. Has 16 head of cattle and one pair horses—three pair of draught oxen included in the cattle. He says breaking and backsetting costs \$4 (16s.) an acre.

On this road we saw some fine crops of millet, which seems very suitable for forage.

Visited one or two solitary schools on the prairie. Northfield School has 40 children on books; 20 attending now, 30 in spring, 25 in winter. Master gets \$450 a year; has to pay \$3½ for board. No inspection takes place this year. Visited another village school on the road. Master a medical student—a temporary teacher. Only seven children present; some had to walk three and a quarter miles.



Was told that a man can plough three acres of stubble a day on the prairie with an ordinary plough.



WHEAT STACKS, MANITOBA.

Passed some fields of "haild" corn; quite useless—had made a second growth.

As we approached Wawanesa the country was not quite so good, but the place is beautifully situated on the Souris River.

Some of the farmers in this district expect 40 bushels of wheat to the acre.

Prices in shops at Wawanesa—Pair of socks, \$1; tea, 25 cents to 50 cents per lb.; coffee, 50 cents per lb.; flannel suit, \$3 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; dairy butter, 15 cents.

After dinner, we started, crossing the Souris River, and drove 27 miles to Plum Creek (late Souris), arriving there at 7.30 p.m. Land all taken up, but much unbroken. Rolling prairie. Few cattle. Good deal of wheat spoilt by hail. Our horses had brought us 60 miles this day, and seemed as fresh as possible at the end.

Plum Creek is a thriving place, and apparently a very pretty one; but it was dark, and we started directly after supper in a special train for Brandon, which we reached in one and a half hours.

#### ASSESSMENTS, ETC.—LAND VALUES.

Cultivated prairie, at \$5 an acre; uncultivated prairie, at \$4 an acre. Taxes, &c., on 160 acres, from \$14 to \$16 a year = to 8 or 9 mills on a dollar.

No tax on buildings on farms.

No tax on personalty, such as horses, cattle, implements, &c., unless they exceed \$500 in value.

No one can be assessed above 2 cents in the dollar (5d. in £) without a special Act.

The above varies in different districts. North-West Territories taxes are lighter than Manitoba.

Price this year for best wheat, 80 cents a bushel; average of year, probably 70 cents a bushel.

Average yield of province,  $23\frac{3}{4}$  bushels an acre.

Yield of last four years—1887, 35 bushels to acre; 1888, 20 bushels to acre; 1889, 15 bushels to acre; 1890, 25 bushels to acre. Average,  $23\frac{3}{4}$  bushels.

Wheat can be grown at \$8 (34s.) an acre. If sold for 80 cents a bushel, there will be on it—Cost of work, 40 cents; profit, 40 cents; total, 80 cents. In 1880, 100,000 bushels were exported; in 1887, between 11 and 12 million bushels.



PLOUGHING AT SANDISON'S FARM, BRANDON.

Sept. 26.—Made a most interesting expedition to Mr. Sandison's farm, five or six miles from Brandon. Mr. S., a Scotchman, began without a cent seven years ago. Hired himself out at first, then took a small section, and has gradually added to this, either by purchase or hire, till he farms about 3,000 acres. He is still quite a young man—perhaps 30. He employs a great deal of labour, mostly Scotchmen, probably giving at this time of the year about \$2½ a day. He has 33 teams of horses (66 horses), and three teams of driving horses. A team sometimes goes with grain into Brandon with load three times in a day (total, 30 miles). His men's work hours are as follows:—Half-past

6 to half-past 11; rest, 2 hours; half-past 1 to half-past 6; total, 10 hours. He does not find it answer to do longer hours.



THRESHING AT SANDISON'S FARM, BRANDON.

He threshes all his grain from the stooks, and leaves the straw in. Can thresh 312½ quarters (2,500 bushels) in a day! but straw is very short and much broken; it is used to fire the engine. There are two sacks to receive the wheat, and no *hinder-ends*. The wheat is cleaned again at the elevator before being put on the railway. It goes direct there, and a certain percentage is charged for dirt—with Sandison probably about 5 per cent. The men get \$35 a month, and board.

I saw some splendid black oats grown on the farm, about 80 or 90 bushels to acre (?), they said. I admired a stable well guarded with 3 feet of sods—almost the first of the kind I had seen in the country.

Mr. Sandison and his wife live in the most tumble-down old shanty, though his stables, barns, &c., are most excellent. I believe he frequently goes to Scotland, and brings out fresh men for his farm.

At Brandon we visited the Government Experimental Farm, one of those admirable institutions scattered all over Canada. Here we were received by the most intelligent and obliging of officials, Mr. Bedford. After a sumptuous luncheon, and an inspection of the various grains, and the grasses hung round the barn, we saw the various experimental grasses that had been tried for this climate. It is found that clover is killed by the frost, but lucerne stands well. We saw some excellent samples of wheat and barley—the latter the best sample we had seen in Canada, and well worthy of the attention of English maltsters.

In the afternoon, most of our party drove to some other farms, but I went to a blacksmith, to look at shoeing. All shoes are ready-

made, and nails ready pointed. The charge for a new set of shoes is \$2 (equal to 8s.); 25 cents (1s.) for a remove.

At a butcher's, beef, 12½ cents a lb. (beef in winter, by carcass, 6 cents a lb.); lamb, 16 cents a lb. Journeyman got \$30 a month and board. A lady who buys a deal of beef says that she only pays 10 cents (5d.) for all kinds of beef.

I went to a ward school. The lady in charge said she had never reported a child for non-attendance. She generally wrote or went to parents when attendance was bad. In one room, instead of lessons, practice in modelling of pears, apples, &c., was done, with explanations; also drawing and explanations on flowers. Attendance, 44 out of 60. Little Union Jack flags were given to the best marks of the day.

Asked a young woman at hotel about prices of clothes, &c. \$10 for a lady's hat; \$4 for ordinary cotton dress; 60 cents a pair of cashmere stockings; tea, 60 cents per pound; eggs, 8 cents per dozen. Maids at hotel get \$12 a month. Little else, except from boarders at Christmas time.

This young woman was a relation of Mrs. Botterill, of Tathwell. Lived as a friend with Mrs. Sharp, a farmer's wife. He has 160 acres. Did badly at first, as his crop was frozen. Bought another farm at \$5 an acre, and is now doing well. Has four cows, one team of horses, and a colt; 50 acres broken up. He is the first man I have heard of who objects to send his children to public school.

Called on Mrs. Kirchhoffer, whose husband's family were well known to some of ours. He began with nothing; is now a lawyer, and agent for land companies, &c., and doing very well.

We were entertained in the evening by inhabitants of Brandon. After dinner, I escaped to bed.

At Brandon we were handed over to the Manitoba and North-Western Railway, and accompanied by Mr. Eden, their superintendent.

Before we left Brandon in the morning we hurriedly examined a splendid flour mill, which could grind 1,000 bushels of wheat in a day with 200 horse-power. Charged 1½ cents per bushel to Sandison; perhaps 2 cents to anyone else. We also saw some interesting work done at a saw-mill. The engines at both these places were fed by sawdust.

Sept. 27.—We left Brandon amidst the cheers of the public, to which we gave a hearty response, and drove 22 miles to Rapid City. The country was undulating and pretty, but more suited to grazing than grain. We, however, saw some grand crops of wheat, one of which extended as far as the eye could see. We saw good-looking cattle in large numbers.

At Rapid City we were entertained by the Mayor and Corporation at the hotel, and then took special train to Minnedosa. There we joined the main line of the Manitoba and North-Western Railway, and wound through a pretty undulating and well-settled country along the Little Saskatchewan to Birtle, arriving there at 7.

I was met at the station by Mr. Herchmer, who lives here, and Mr. Mytton, the clergyman, the latter of whom drove me to the town, a mile from the station. Before doing so, we were entertained at supper at the station by the railway company. The rest of my party went

further west. Mr. Herchmer (a cousin of Mrs. G. Nevile) wished to put me up at his house, but I thought it better to go to the small hotel.

I went to a very nice little service this morning (Sept. 28th) at the Church of England church. There were 24 in church, and 12 stayed for sacrament. After church, I drove with Mr. Herchmer to dinner at Mr. Lloyd's, a nephew of General Wilkinson. Mr. Lloyd is managing General W.'s farms. He has about 1,200 acres here, and another farm a short distance off, besides having got his cattle about 100 miles north on some unclaimed land. General Wilkinson is in England, but he has a son and a nephew here--the latter a son of my friend the Rev. C. Wilkinson. Mrs. Lloyd has had no servant for two months, but she had an admirable dinner for us, and it was interesting to see what a lady can accomplish when put to it. After dinner, I went into the back parts, and saw Mrs. Lloyd and two young men (one a Mr. Boothby) washing up the dishes, &c. Our friend Wilkinson's son had just come in from the ranch, where he had been for two and a half months, with another lad. They did their own cooking, &c., and had only seen four Indians and two white men in two and a half months. They lived principally on what they shot. He brought in a prairie chicken, which we weighed ( $2\frac{1}{2}$  lbs.); average weight,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. At the ranch he had to see to about 100 head of cattle and horses. He had left the other lad quite alone, having come for a short time for harvest. I did not gather that he had made, or was likely to make, a fortune, though he worked hard.

General Wilkinson had in all 110 beasts, 4 teams, and 12 Shropshire sheep. His horses were very good, but his corn had been a good deal spoilt by wet. The house was situated on a bank overlooking the river, and was a very good one, with the prettiest outlook I have seen in Manitoba.

Mr. Lloyd had had a capital Barnardo boy in his service. He had gone back to the Home to superintend work there. His name was Fisher.

One of the persons I was anxious to see was Lewarton, a man who came with a large family from Fulbeck to this country about three years ago. Mr. Herchmer drove me to his place, about five miles. I unfortunately found he and his wife had gone out for the day; but I found a heap of children, who were delighted to see me--among them a poor blind lad whom we sent to Nottingham a few years since. They seemed to be doing well, and the elder boys had no wish to go back to England. Lewarton had a good house, which he had built himself; and the property was now his own. He could also have two more pieces of 160 acres each on certain terms. They had about 30 acres broken, and had stacked their corn. Had 19 head of cattle, one pair of working bullocks, good potatoes, and turnips.

A school-house was near. The schoolmistress boarded with the Lewartons. She had an attendance of 7 out of 15--mostly of the Lewarton family, who thereby get their education for a nominal sum.

We put up several coveys of prairie chickens on our road to Lewarton's. He has killed about 20 this year. The land was a good deal uncultivated about him, it being held by speculators.

Had interesting conversation with Mr. Thos. Vant, a Yorkshireman, who came to this country with a fine lot of boys two years ago. Doing well on a small piece of garden near Birtle. Children all well dressed. One son lives on a quarter-section (160 acres). Came to this country with £100. Built small house—two rooms above, two below—for £10. Paid \$110 for oxen, \$24 for plough, \$40 for entrance to homestead and pre-emption. Earned one and a half dollars a day at first at odd jobs; eldest boy also earned money. Has no wish to go back to England, except on a visit; is quite satisfied. Told me three days after he put in radishes leaves were as large as a shilling.

Drove 20 miles from Birtle to Binscarth; had to wait three hours for car from North-West. In the hotel found a landlord who had been coachman to Duke of Cambridge and others. He and his brother had a livery stable and farm, and were doing well after four years.

Weighed a potato grown here; it scaled 2½ lbs. Tasted jelly and jam made of wild black currants, wild red currants, wild gooseberries, wild cranberries, wild saskatoons, wild cherries, and wild strawberries.

Early in the morning of Sept. 30, the car was moved up by a branch line to Russell, one and a half miles from Barnardo's Institution for London lads.

Here there is a large farm, with upwards of 55 cows in milk, a creamery, good garden, good farm buildings, &c. The boys seemed of all ages from 13 to 20, some of low cast of countenance; but the matron said she had no difficulty with them. Splendid vegetables in the garden. Good water.

Could hear of very few amusements for the boys. Pity some lady does not come and help them.

Was entertained at breakfast by the Institution. The building seemed indifferently built; kitchen and store-rooms small and bad.

Measured some vegetables in garden. Turnip radish, 14 in. circumference; long radish, 2 ft. 2 in. long; swede, 2 ft. 4 in. circumference; drumhead cabbage, 3 ft. 7 in. circumference, solid heart; cauliflower, 3 ft. 1 in. circumference of flower.

Met here Colonel Bolton, whom I had known in the 100th, 27 years ago. He is an old settler, and large property owner in these parts, and says he has done very well.

Lord Polwarth has presented to Barnardo's Institution a fine bull and 20 Southdown sheep.

A few miles from here we came to the Binscarth Farm, belonging to a Scotch Land Company. They farm 4,000 acres, and have a total of 19,000 acres which they can possess. Here we saw some splendid pedigree Shorthorns, many of them worthy of the best show in England. The calves were particularly fine; bulls rather short of quality. Calves have never been out. About 120 two, three, and four year olds had lately been shipped from this district: average, \$35 (£7) each.

There are 80 head of pedigree Shorthorns on the farm, and 14 sheep. Land suffers from frost. Cattle allowed to run without tending after 1st October. No manure used on farm, though cake is given in quantities.

From Binscarth we returned to Birtle, and drove to a small

exhibition of horses, cattle, bread, butter, cheese, vegetables, onions, beetroot, &c.; also pictures, needlework, and patchwork. Added to above were trotting and galloping races. All the latter part was poor, but the exhibition of roots and vegetables most excellent.

A man told me he sowed 2 bushels of potatoes. He has four in family. Began to eat in July; in September he had 37 bushels to spare.

In the evening we were entertained by the Mayor and Council, and afterwards spent an enjoyable evening in the Town Hall, listening to the experiences of various speakers. The delegates also had to speak. All speakers seemed to have prospered more or less.

John Ewbank Edmondson came out May, 1889. Bought half-section 4 miles from Birtle; has 70 acres in crop. Five boys, aged 14 downwards; three girls—young. Drilled wheat 16th April; cut wheat 10th August. Doing well.

A young Scotchman also gave his experiences in the clearest way. He began with 25 cents, and appeared now (after eight years) to be worth a great deal of money. He was a gallant-looking young fellow, who meant work.

To show what a number of things a man may pass through in this country, I give the history of one, told by himself:—

1. As a boy apprenticed five years to machinery; got pay last two years for being efficient.
2. Articled to surveyor two years.
3. Traded with Indians.
4. Freight.
5. Ran liquor and fancy goods business in Winnipeg.
6. Ran a steamboat.
7. Shot game for Winnipeg market.
8. Traded in farms.
9. Farmed.
10. Ran general business in connection with farms.
11. Ran livery business.
12. Ran house for Hudson Bay Company.
13. Cut cordwood for a steamboat company.
14. Treasurer of County Court; game guardian; churchwarden, &c., &c.

Oct. 1.—Left Birtle, where I had received the greatest kindness, particularly from Mr. Herchmer and the Rev. J. Mytton, the English Church clergyman. We all started east together, and I went on to Portage-la-Prairie, where I changed on to the C. P. R.

We saw quantities of cattle, and very pretty country from Minnedosa, Neepawa, Gladstone, &c., and splendid wheat land on Portage Plains. All the corn was gathered, and a good deal threshed. We went for some little time along the banks of the Little Saskatchewan. It must be lovely here in spring; now it is all burnt up.

Portage seemed a busy town, with good shops, and electric light.

There was nothing particularly interesting to see between Portage and Moosomin, but all the land seemed pretty well taken up.

I arrived at Moosomin at 11.30 at night, and was met at the station by Mr. McNaughton, a storekeeper of the place, who insisted on my coming to his house instead of the hotel. I found his nice wife sitting up; and I was soon asleep in a most comfortable bed. Before I went to bed, however, I got a most interesting account of Mrs.

McNaughton's father. It appeared that he made \$20,000 by farming, &c., in Ontario some years ago, but lost all by speculation. So he determined to move to this country, bringing horses, cattle, furniture, &c., with him. The value of his effects would be about \$1,400. His effects were brought in a van, accompanied only by his two sons, aged 17 and 15. Had \$100 in cash. Mr. Crisp's family consisted of three girls and four boys. Bought half a section (320 acres); spent \$700 on house, and \$1,000 on barn, &c.; employed carpenter one day at \$2½. Had to live on credit first year. First year's crop frozen. Now owns 640 acres (father and son). Owes Government \$800, and friends \$800. Was 45 years of age when he came from Ontario to the North-West six years ago. Born in Yorkshire. Worked on farms—draining in Wales—ship's blacksmith at Buffalo—also in furniture business, which did not answer.

Crisp's balance-sheet, as made by Mr. McNaughton and his wife, and myself:—

| <i>Assets.</i>  |     |     |     |     |          |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------|
| 640 acres land (fictitious ?), at \$10 an acre...             | ... | ... | ... | ... | \$6,400  |
| Buildings on above  | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,000    |
| Present crop, 25 bushels to acre; less \$250 for threshing .. | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,500    |
| Oats, barley, and potatoes                                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | 100      |
| Hay   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 200      |
| 3 teams horses, \$750; 25 beasts at \$20                      | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,250    |
| 20 sheep at \$5   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 100      |
| Pigs  | ... | ... | ... | ... | 30       |
| Implements  | ... | ... | ... | ... | 400      |
| Furniture   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 250      |
|   |     |     |     |     | <hr/>    |
|   |     |     |     |     | \$11,230 |
| <i>Less</i>   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3,000    |
|   |     |     |     |     | <hr/>    |
| Balance credit in six years                                   |     |     |     |     | \$8,230  |
|   |     |     |     |     | <hr/>    |

I am told I ought to leave out the above \$6,400 as an asset; also, on the other side, money due to the Government. The account would then stand—Credit, \$2,630.

Just before I left England I received a letter from my niece, Lady M——, asking me to pay a visit, if possible, to her husband's brother, who has farmed for eight years on Pipestone Creek, at about 10 miles from Moosomin. It was for this reason I came there last night.

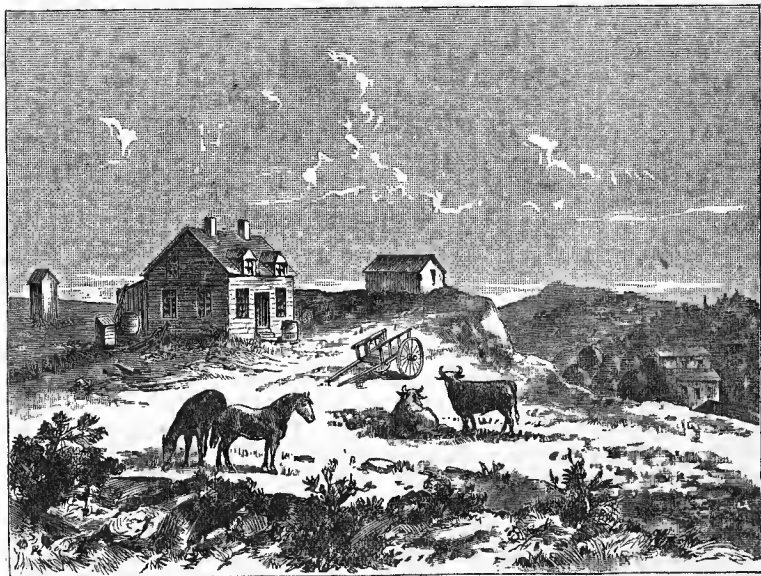
Oct. 2.—At about 7 a.m., M—— drove in, in a rough buckboard, and a worn-out looking horse, to fetch me. After breakfast, I started over the prairie to his place. The country was not particularly interesting or well cultivated, but it seemed pretty well settled up, principally by Englishmen. It is mostly suited to cattle, but I saw a few fair crops stooked in the fields uncarried. M—— had finished carrying his wheat, but had about four or five days carrying of oats to do. His house was a very fair one, built by himself. Having been an architect, it had a few more ornamentations than most of the houses in these parts, but it had the same untidy appearance all round, with little or no garden and stables, and barn indifferent. He has about 800 acres, 230 of which are broken up. He has about 150 acres in crop this year, of



which 20 acres are oats. He has had a good yield, but it is partly frosted, and not worth above 60 cents a bushel, I should think. A man and his wife live with him. He used to pay them wages (\$420—£84—a year, and board), but now he goes halves with him in everything. He is a good working man, and I should think the arrangement a good one. The two do the whole work of the farm. I made out that, taking the wages of himself and his man at \$400 each, and extra labour by a neighbour at \$20, and \$80 for crofter girl, he would spend \$900. His produce of grain this year would amount to about \$1,300, and a few odds and ends about \$150.

The party have about 21 beasts of sorts, 6 working horses, 3 colts, and 2 pigs: no sheep. Had good many pigs last year, but several died. Tea, &c., only drunk at meals.

His man is in debt to him, owing to last year's bad season, as there was no profit. No chance of selling his land if he wished to do so, as there are so many homesteads still to be taken up, and it is 10 miles from a railway.



A FARM-HOUSE IN THE NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES.  
(Drawn by Colonel Fane.)

On road passed a man named Middleton. Has 320 acres, 62 broken. Hopes to get 1,000 bushels. Will keep his straw. Has one team of bullocks, cow and calf. Was with W. H. Smith & Co. Came out with nine children, and \$1,000; is perfectly satisfied, and sees a good prospect for self and children. Has been out six years. Had a good place in England, but no prospect for children, as in this country.

During our drive passed the houses of the following settlers (farmers?):—

- 1 Middleton—Had been book-stall man.
2. Another man—Tea trader in China.
3. " " Market gardener.
4. " " Grocer.
5. " " Civil engineer.
6. " " Groom.
7. " " Banker's clerk.

I was much interested at M——'s to see his sister—a fashionable London lady, who had come out to stay with her brother a few months. She quite adopted the fashion of sitting down to table with the workman and his wife, the former in his shirt-sleeves. She partly cooked an excellent dinner, laid the cloth, removed the dishes, swept the place, made her own bed, harnessed the horse, and, in addition, was as quick as lightning in moving about, and looked a thousand times better than when I saw her in London, and seemed as happy and contented as possible. It did one good to see what an English lady can do when put to it. She had been here three months, and hoped to return to England next month.

To show how little people think of distances and trouble in this country, M—— came into Moosomin (10 miles) to fetch me in the morning, and in the evening again, at 7, drove me in the dark over the prairie to Moosomin. He would arrive home again about 1 in the morning.

We found that the train, which should have arrived at 11.15 p.m., was two hours late. Mr. McDonald insisted on sitting up with me till half-past 1 in the morning, and helped to take my luggage to the station. Our car came in the train. I only lay down for two or three hours.

Oct. 3.—I reached Grenfell at about 3 in the morning. I should have been puzzled in my lame state to get out all my luggage, especially as the car did not reach the platform; but I was agreeably surprised to be met by the clergyman of the district—Rev. F. Baker—who carried my things to his house, more than 150 yards off. He is a bachelor, cooking, and doing all his own household work, as well as looking after his horses. He managed, however, to give me a very comfortable bed, which I was not sorry for. I found, when I went down at 9, that the cooking stove was in the room we lived in, so we had not far to move the dishes he cooked. It would surprise some of our clergymen in England to do what Mr. Baker did. He has a district of 35 miles by 30, but is assisted by another clergyman.

Mr. Baker held services on Sunday as follows:—

|   |                   |     |           |
|---|-------------------|-----|-----------|
| Drove to Desmond (11 miles) at 11.  | Dinner at Desmond | ... | 11 miles. |
| Returned, arriving at Grenfell at 2.45 (service 3, with christening, till 4.15)   | ...               | ... | 11 "      |
| Drove by himself with wild team 16 miles to Wolsley   | ...               | ... | 16 "      |
| Service and supper, and back (on a pitch dark night over the prairie), probably about 11 p.m.—no fire or comfort to welcome him | ...               | ... | 16 "      |

54 "

And three services.

The church was close to the house, and was very prettily fitted up. There is in Grenfell a Presbyterian and a Methodist Church. The whole of the churches seemed neatly kept, except outside, as usual.

My friend Colonel Lake came in from his house, seven miles off, to fetch me; but as there was an agricultural show in the town, I waited, and was driven out in the evening to Colonel Lake's farm by his sons, one of whom—Captain Lake—has been till lately at the Horse Guards; the other son works on the farm. Mrs. Lake and her daughter do most of the household work, assisted by a little maid brought out from Bethnal Green by Miss Lake. They have also living with them, as labourer, a boy from some Home in London, who has been with them four years, and is now receiving good pay. A young English gentleman also assists in the farm, which consists of about 1,500 acres, about 210 of which are broken up. The stock consists of one heavy team; one general purposes team; one pony team; 11 other horses, &c., of sorts; 39 cattle; also a very good Shorthorn bull—the best I have seen in these parts; turkeys, chickens, &c.; and a good garden. Lake sold this spring 11 cattle for \$385.

There were a great many people in the village for the show. I have never seen so many English in one place before; many well-dressed young English gentlemen: they brought in horses, sheep, and cattle to the show. The roots, &c., were shown in the Town Hall, which has been built for the purpose, though the inhabitants of the village do not amount to above 200 persons.

I saw a good thoroughbred stallion—"Corneille," by "McGregor;" a first-rate shire stallion—"Prince 8th"—out of Kceval's stud; several teams of horses, ponies, &c.; and a good thoroughbred yearling bull Shorthorn, belonging to Mr. Rowley. The sheep were a poor show.

Small ponies stand the cold best. Teams of big horses, \$350 to \$450; these are not turned out in winter.

The best teams of ponies could be bought at \$120 to \$150 the pair; they were generally accompanied by their foals. They and young stock got no hay or oats, and were out all the winter, but looked very well.

There was an excellent exhibit from the new Experimental Farm at Indian Head. The black oats, lucerne, and clover were very good; but the best exhibits of wheat and peas were from the Indian Reservation, a few miles from here.

Products of Indian Head Farm:—Spring rye good, sown July 7, cut September 1; red clover wintered well; lucerne wintered well, 18 inches of root; Scotch tartarian oats, 60 bushels to acre—very good. Land: 8 inches of black loam, clay underneath.

The show would have been better had they not had a hailstorm on 8th June last.

This being the North-West Territory, no liquor is allowed to be sold without a permit. Persons requiring two gallons of wine or whisky must pay a dollar to Government. No innkeeper would be allowed to have a permit. This does not stop drinking at times.

I hear that a German settlement in this neighbourhood is very flourishing.

I have collected from an old settler the names of some of the old country settlers within 11 or 12 miles of here, together with their previous occupations: -

| NAME.                    | OCCUPATION BEFORE EMIGRATING.              |
|--------------------------|--|
| 1. Crush .. ..           | Farmer, from Essex.                        |
| 2. Laidlaw .. ..         | „ Scotland.                                |
| 3. Mitchell .. ..        | Milkman, &c., Liverpool; farmed also.      |
| 4. Lake, Colonel .. ..   | Retired officer, Lancashire.               |
| 5. R. S. Lake .. ..      | English Civil Service, Lancashire.         |
| 6. Ffolliott. . . .      | Farm pupil, England; son of officer.       |
| 7. Eliot .. ..           | Surgeon, England.                          |
| 8. Fitzgerald, E. . . .  | Clerk, Ireland (Kerry).                    |
| 9. Fitzgerald, R. . . .  | Was in Australia; traded for Woolwich.     |
| 10. Fitzgerald, J. . . . | Clerk, Ireland.                            |
| 11. Fitzgerald, W. . . . | Farm pupil, Ireland.                       |
| 12. Fitzgerald, R. . . . | From school, Ireland.                      |
| 13. Fitzgerald, A. . . . | „ „ „                                      |
| 14. Fitzgerald, W. . . . | Nova Scotia farmer. Ireland.               |
| 16. Aston .. ..          | Farmer, England.                           |
| 16. Hexstall .. ..       | „ „ „                                      |
| 17. Rowley, J. . . .     | Farm pupil, England.                       |
| 18. Rowley, R. . . .     | Navy, England.                             |
| 19. Chapman .. ..        | Cambridge man, England.                    |
| 20. Skrine, R. . . .     | Coffee planter, England, from Ceylon.      |
| 21. Skrine, O. P. . . .  | „ „ „                                      |
| 22. Tryon .. ..          | „ „ „                                      |
| 23. Bushe .. ..          | Army surgeon, Ireland.                     |
| 24. Taylor .. ..         | Manufacturer, Manchester.                  |
| 25. Bathurst .. ..       | Officer, Militia, England.                 |
| 26. Sayer .. ..          | Coffee planter, from Ceylon.               |
| 27. Gooden Chisholm ..   | Army, English.                             |
| 28. Macdonald .. ..      | Farm pupil, Irish.                         |
| 29. Hutchinson .. ..     | Surgeon, Scotch.                           |
| 30. Whitlaw .. ..        | Farm labourer, England.                    |
| 31. Wild .. ..           | Pensioner, England.                        |
| 32. Wild .. ..           | Market gardener, England.                  |
| 33. Dixon .. ..          | Horse dealer, England; also station agent. |
| 34. Ely .. ..            | Shopkeeper, England.                       |
| 35. Campbell .. ..       | Farm pupil, Scotch.                        |
| 36. Harrison .. ..       | Soldier.                                   |
| 37. Phipps .. ..         | Retired officer, England                   |
| 38. Creed .. ..          | Farm pupil, England.                       |
| 39. Bilson .. ..         | „ „ „                                      |
| 40. Simpkinson .. ..     | „ „ „                                      |
| 41. Hyde .. ..           | Broker's assistant, England.               |
| 42. Cummins, H. C. . . . | Mining engineer, Welsh.                    |
| 43. Cummins, N. . . .    | Farmer, Welsh.                             |
| 44. Gwynne .. ..         | Oxford man.                                |
| 45. Dimmock .. ..        | Farmer, North of England.                  |
| 46. Dimmock .. ..        | „ „ „                                      |
| 47. Lee .. ..            | Carpenter. „ „                             |
| 48. Reid .. ..           | Farmer, England.                           |
| 49. Brown .. ..          | ? „  |
| 50. Mitchell .. ..       | Farmer. „                                  |
| 51. Mitchell .. ..       | „  |
| 52. Green .. ..          | Farmer, England.                           |
| 53. Thompson .. ..       | „ Durham; and carpenter here.              |
| 54. Balding .. ..        | Groom, England.                            |
| 55. Ball .. ..           | Several trades, England.                   |
| 56. Coode .. ..          | Navy, England.                             |

| NAME.          |     |     | OCCUPATION BEFORE EMIGRATING. |
|----------------|-----|-----|-------------------------------|
| 57. Marshall   | ... | ... | Farmer.                       |
| 58. Axford     | ... | ... | Sailor and labourer.          |
| 59. Malkin     | ... | ... | Schoolboy.                    |
| 60. Malkin     | ... | ... | Clerk.                        |
| 61. Richardson | ... | ... | Carpenter.                    |

Farmers, 14; other occupations, 47.

There are several more Englishmen in the radius, whose names I could not gather. They have a second church at Weed Hill, a cricket club, and a pack of hounds.

Lake's sons were at the show, and they drove me seven miles over the prairie to Winmarleigh, his house. It was a much better looking one than most of those I generally see, and is situated in some woody hills, with a large flat piece of land near, which was all water when he first came eight years ago.



COLONEL LAKE'S HOUSE, WINMARLEIGH.  
(Drawn by Colonel Fane.)

On Saturday, the 4th, we intended driving to see some settlers, but it rained and drizzled all day—the first disagreeable day we have had for a fortnight. The young men went out ploughing, taking their guns; they brought back three geese. I intended driving in to catch the train, but it was such a nasty night that I determined to accept the invitation to stay among kind friends another night.

Oct. 5.—There was no church this morning, so Lake drove me to see two settlers. One had living with him a man named Butterworth, who had been in a machine shop in Manchester, and had lost some

fingers. He had been here since May last, getting his board and \$5 a month. He is a handy man, and will soon move on to better pay. He said he was very contented.

We also visited a young gentleman named Ffolliott, who had been pupil for three years with Lake, and had since married, built a good house, and taken up half a section (320 acres), 35 acres of which were broken; half of the above will cost him \$400. The whole will be his if he lives three years on it. He had used a good deal of lime both inside and outside his house. He can get the stone for it easily off the prairie, but it costs three times as much as lime in England. Mr. Ffolliott after leaving Lake worked two years in a flour mill at \$1½ a day, afterwards at \$1¼. He has now one team of working horses, pony and foal, three cows, three calves, and three pigs. He employs a boy got from the Young Men's Christian Association. He says he is very slow, and no use; he gives him \$6 a month. Wife does all the cooking, washing, &c. His father is a colonel in our Army.

After service, I was going to stay in Baker's house till the train came, but the churchwarden, Mr. Freeman—a very nice young man—with his most kind wife, proposed that I should make use of their house. I gladly accepted their offer, and was most comfortable in every way. I had tea with them, and lay down on a sofa till 2 a.m., when the train was due.

Having registered my baggage, I had only my hand-bag to carry to Grenfell Station. I awoke all right, and, with a lantern, had no difficulty in picking my way through boxes and old pots past houses to the station. Luckily it did not rain, though it looked threatening. I lay down for a second time, in the cars, and got to Regina at 5.30 a.m., October 6. I here found a North-West constable, who helped me with my things; also Major Jarvis, an officer of police. We went to a good hotel, where I went to rest for the third time this night, and slept till 9.

Colonel Herchmer, the Chief Commissioner of Police, came twice to fetch me, and also sent a team, which took me after breakfast up to the headquarter barracks of the celebrated North-West Mounted Police, a force that has charge of an enormous district, reaching to the Rocky Mountains, and covering a space 800 miles from east to west, and about 350 miles from north to south.

The barracks are excellent, with every comfort for the men, and the Commissioner's house the nicest and best-kept house I have seen since leaving Toronto. I spent the day with Colonel Herchmer; looked at the roll of his men, visited the stables, riding school, &c. This is the headquarters of the force, which consists of about 1,000 men and 40 officers. Many of the former are young English and Irish gentlemen, who have come out here to farm, &c., and preferred, after a little time, to join this force. As you may imagine, they are a splendid body of men, but one that requires a sharp hand over them. This is the headquarters for recruits, band, &c. There is also a large force of the police at Calgary; but, in general, they are scattered in small parties all over the North-West Territory.

The force is entirely mounted on "bronchos," raised on the

prairies. They are a good class of horse, with good feet and legs, rather wanting in rib, but with capital action. Colonel Herchmer buys them at about an average of \$120 each, at three and four years old. The police make almost everything they use, on their own premises.

I drove round to two places with Colonel Herchmer, and visited some settlers. One man had two young men from England (Risk and Browning) working for him; one of them had been with him two years. They had just bought 320 acres from the Canada North-West Land Company, at six miles from Regina, paying \$6 an acre, to be paid in six yearly instalments.

I came across a farmer named Young, from Coddington, in Nottinghamshire. His brother still farms there. He has been able to do well for his five sons first, editor of paper, aged 24; second, tinsmith (foreman), aged 22; third, chemist (foreman), aged 20; fourth, with a chemist; fifth, at a bookseller's. Young farms, shoots, and keeps a small store.

Herchmer told me to-day of a man named Brown, one and a half miles from Birtle. Began in 1879. Had eight or nine children, a scythe, and two or three weeks' food; lived in a stable in winter. Father has now 320 acres; son also 320. Two daughters married. Has two span of horses, 50 cattle, and doing well; owes nothing. Brown comes from Oakham, where he was on the railway.

Saw at Regina a man named McLeod—Highlander, with large family. Came with nothing, seven years ago; has now good house, windmill, 80 or 90 head of cattle; supplies town with milk.

I slept at the hotel at Regina, and at 5 in the morning of the 7th October went on board the cars, and travelled all day. There seemed very little land taken up between Regina and Calgary, except the large farms of 10,000 acres each, which were taken up by Sir J. L. Kaye, and now belong to a company. They raise very little wheat; but I saw some fair crops of turnips. It looked a good sheep country; but I only saw one flock of a thousand or so. We saw the sage bush growing strongly for the first time. Lakes seemed much dried up, and there appeared a good deal of alkali about. In some parts the ground was nicely undulating. The country north of this is so much better than this part of the country has been rather neglected up to this time. We did not even see many horses. Medicine Hat seemed a busy place, as the Saskatchewan is navigable here, and the coal district is at no great distance.

In the evening we had a snowstorm, and reached Calgary at 4 in the morning of 8th, in a violent storm of sleet and snow. I could not get a bed, so had to be content with a sofa and rug in the passage. These were supplied to me by an old artilleryman—Porte,—who had known both my brother Henry and old Colonel J. Fane, when quartered at Portsmouth years ago.

The morning of the 9th looked hopeless; it was blowing a hurricane, with snow and sleet. I had no room at the hotel, and had to sit in the bar all day, and at night again lie down in the passage. As there seemed no prospect of driving over the prairies now, I

determined to go straight to the coast. In the meantime, when the weather lulled a little, I went to examine the schools, with Major Walker, a gentleman who came to look after me, and dined with Colonel Herchmer (brother of the two others of that name whom I had met) at the police barracks. During the day I had an opportunity of seeing several men connected with the ranches (mostly Englishmen) loafing about the bar; as I heard it expressed, "farming with a scatter-gun and snell-dog." They did not impress me with the idea of being money-makers. I found that the average price at which three and four year old steers were sold was about \$40; horses from the ranches, from \$70 to \$90.

A Mr. H. D. Johnson came to see me. He came from near Newark. Had been in the country eight years. His wife was the daughter of Mr. W. Holt, schoolmaster of Denton. He came out as a mason. He now builds for the Government; gets \$1,200 a year. Son farms 160 acres of his own.

The cowboys kept it up till two in the morning; so I was not sorry to get off my sofa and walk to the station, and was soon asleep in my berth when we started.

Oct. 9.—It was most fortunate that we had a fall of snow yesterday, as it covered all the tops of the mountains to-day. We were the whole day passing through glorious scenery, with splendid peaks and wild ravines in all directions. The only drawback was the quantity of dead timber, the gaunt, tall lines of which covered the face of the hills. Towards the afternoon the scenery improved in this respect, and the shape and colour of the mountains were as fine as anything I have ever seen. At Glacier House, where we stopped for a meal, the view of a glacier close by was most exquisite, as there was not a cloud in the sky. We crossed the Columbia River at one point, and went on all night through the same sort of scenery.

When I awoke in the morning, we were still in the mountains; but we had crossed the watershed of the continent, and were running down the Thompson River, and afterwards the Fraser River, through the most glorious passes I have ever seen. We seemed to cling to the sides of frightful chasms overhanging the rivers. I think the scenery and road far surpassed the St. Gothard and other passes, as one is never in a tunnel, but constantly winding round points perched two or three hundred feet above the roaring torrents below.

The vegetation also had entirely changed, and instead of bare trees and shrubs, we were surrounded with perfectly green trees, willows, Douglas pines, blackberries, ferns, and numerous plants known to a milder climate. It seemed as if we had gone back six weeks of the season. At North Bend, we had dinner at a most charming hotel, looked after by two Scotch ladies; and it did one good to see the neatness of the place, the trim lawn (full of clover), and ferns and flowers in the windows. At this place we parted with our "observation car"—a delightful open carriage, which is put on for people to see the scenery from while passing through the mountains.

At Yale and other small villages, where there was any open ground, the orchards were covered with thousands of apples and plums. I

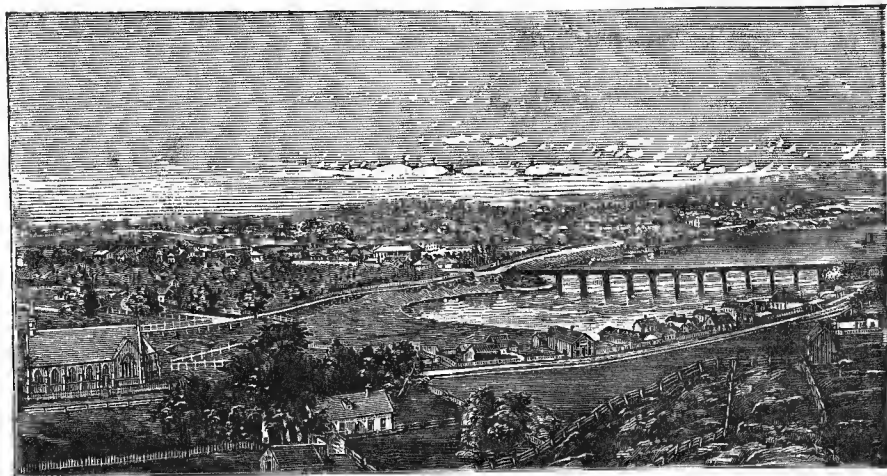


don't think it would be possible to have larger crops than we saw there. There seemed very little other land worth cultivating in the mountains.

At a place called "Mission," we saw two large buildings which are used by the Catholics to educate Indian children. They have a large farm, which goes to support the establishment.

From this place we got a lovely view of Mount Baker, a most prominent mountain in the State of Washington. It looked grand, as there was not a cloud in the sky. It reminded me of one's first view of Mont Blanc.

At about 3 p.m. on the 10th October we arrived at Vancouver, and went straight on board a fine steamer, which landed us in about five hours at Victoria, in Vancouver Island. The voyage was very delightful, as we travelled through narrow channels and past many islands almost all the way. This was my first view of the Pacific.



CITY OF VICTORIA.

When I got up this morning (Oct. 11th) it was raining hard, and felt like a moist English day. I took a cab, and drove to call on Sir Joseph Trutch; he kindly went with me to call on the Lieutenant-Governor, and to the Club and other places, and in the afternoon took me a long drive about the country.

The surroundings of Victoria are beautiful, with endless bays, hills, and rocks, covered with vegetation and splendid Douglas pines and other timber. Wherever there was any cultivated ground, the crop seemed good on it; there being at least 6 or 7 inches of good soil on the top of clay. The wheat I saw was very fine (white autumn wheat); oats also good; but what astonished me most was the profusion of fruit.

In Sir J. Trutch's garden everything seemed to grow in profusion. Thick hedge of privet, roses, broom, large violets, cherries, potatoes,

apricots, honeysuckle, pears, plums, hollies, &c. The trees were absolutely loaded with fruit; indeed, I have never in my life seen such crops. The difficulty with all these things, however, is to find a market for them.

It surprised me also to see several times in our drive, pheasants fly from the cultivated land into the patches of wood. They were imported here a few years ago, and have thriven wonderfully. They must be difficult to kill, as the covers are very thick with heather, willow, broom, &c., and long grass, and various kinds of pines. Everyone seems to have a gun, but we saw frequent notices to sportsmen not to trespass. An attempt is made to preserve.

One peculiarity here is the quantity of Chinamen. They act as washermen, cooks, housemaids, &c. They are most useful, but they naturally help rather to keep down the rate of wages. These are very high notwithstanding, a good mason or carpenter getting 16s. a day.

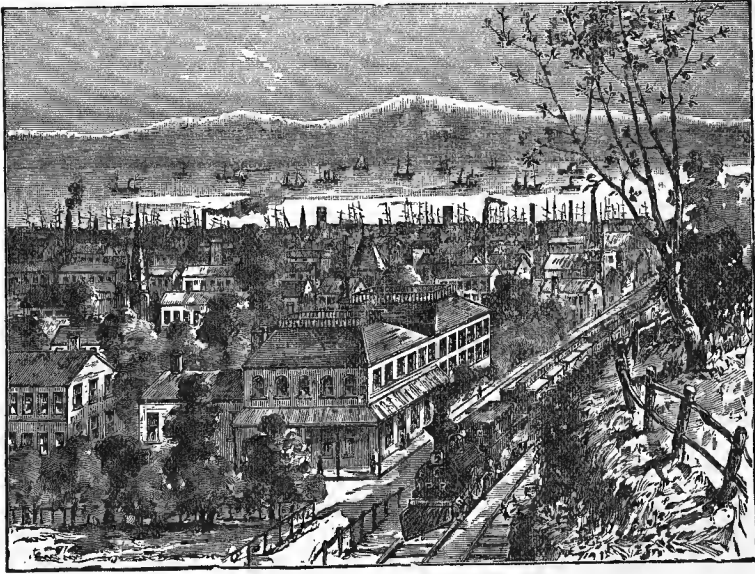
Victoria is a rapidly increasing town. Buildings are going up in every direction. It has telephones, electric light, street cars, cabs in the streets, hansoms, and many other luxuries which one would hardly expect in these remote parts. I fancy a good many people make this their permanent abode, on account of the mildness of the climate. Land is very dear anywhere near the town. In some parts of the island, there are some good farming tracts, I am given to understand, but I had not time to see them.

Went on Sunday to a very nice, but rather elaborate, service at the cathedral church; intoning, chanting the Psalms, &c., &c. Afterwards to luncheon with Mr. O'Reilly, and later on took a drive with the Chief Justice, Sir M. Begbie. As I was walking with these gentlemen, I met a friend of theirs—Mr. Drummond—with his young wife. He had lately come down from their ranch, some 400 miles from here. He had kept no balance-sheet, but was perfectly satisfied with his affairs. He and his partners have about 2,000 head of cattle, which he considers more paying than horses, on account of the difficulty of disposing of the latter. He said he had difficulty in selling good strong horses for more than \$75 each, whereas he could always dispose of cattle at a fair price. Though only 400 miles from here, his ranch seemed as cold as on the east side of the mountains.

Victoria is a fearfully expensive place to live in—wages very high, food costly—so I think it hardly a place for a clerk or other educated man to come to, but a good one for all skilled labourers, gardeners, &c. I had intended going to-night to New Westminster, to see the delta of the Fraser, &c., but at the last moment was told that the boat was not going to-night, so am obliged to go direct to Vancouver to-morrow morning. I am very sorry for this, as I should have liked to have seen Lulu Island, in the delta of the Fraser, which only requires banking in parts to make it as fine a district for crops as any in the world. It is, however, hardly a place for new settlers, as much of the land is worth \$100 an acre; average, \$30 to \$150.

Oct. 13.—I went on board the steamboat at 11 last night, but the boat did not leave for Vancouver till 4 this morning. We reached the town of Vancouver at 10, and had three hours there. This

town has made gigantic strides in four years, and promises to be a most important place. The Canadian Pacific Railway have not only built a splendid hotel there, but are now building an opera house! The town has electric light, electric tramway, &c. The latter goes a fearful pace: one is surprised there are not accidents; but children, dogs, &c., seem to take care of themselves in these countries.



VANCOUVER.

I had some interesting talk at an estate office. The manager told me that in spite of the great works going on here, the taxes are at most \$3½ in \$1,000.

I left Vancouver at 1 once more for my long journey east. I very much regretted I had not more time on the west side of the Rockies, as though there is no great quantity of agricultural land, at Kamloops and other valleys there is some very fine land, in a mild climate.

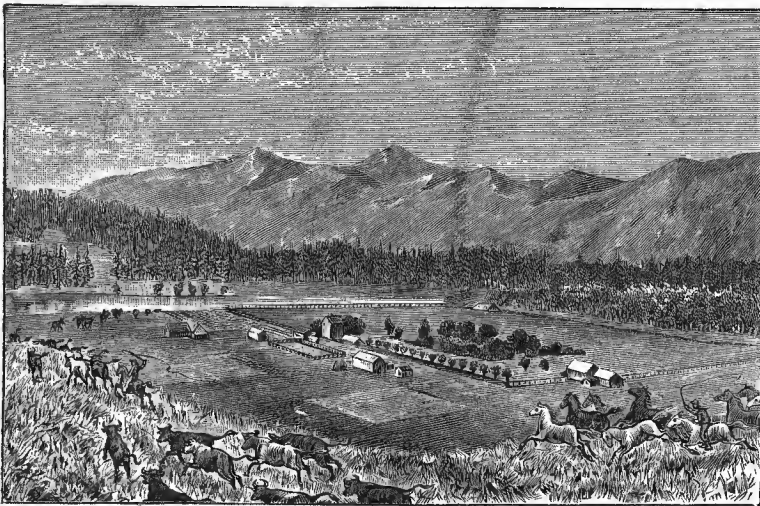
We travelled up the Fraser all day: crossed the Columbia twice in this and following day. We found it snowing at "Glacier." Travelled comfortably all night and during next day, having some grand views of the mountains, and arrived at Banff (C. P. R. Hotel) at 10.30 at night, October 14th.

Had a beautiful view out of my window this morning (Oct. 15th), looking down on the Bow River, with snow-clad mountains all round. This hotel has been built, like several others along the line, by the Canadian Pacific Railway. They are beautifully fitted up, and most comfortable in every way. There are strong sulphur springs here,

which are much frequented during the summer, and even now there are several people in the house.

I drove to the Devil's Lake (or Minnewanka) in the afternoon, to see Disbrowe, a son of my old friend Canon Disbrowe, who runs a sort of hotel at the Lake. He was not there, but I saw him in the evening. There was another nice clean shanty at the place, which was kept by a family of the name of Astley (also sons of a clergyman). Here we got something to eat. It must be a desolate place in winter, closed in by mountains all round. They told me that for two weeks last year they were shut in by the snow. I was driven to the Lake by a young man, who, I was told, was a medical student.

Left Banff at 11.20, and got to Calgary at 2.30 a.m., Oct. 16th. Slept till 8. Called on people who come from Lincolnshire, or neighbourhood. Among them, Dr. George. Saw his wife only. House looked very neat. Has an English maid, giving \$15 a month. Pay \$20 a month for house; two rooms and kitchen below, three rooms above. Doctor's fees: \$1 a mile for distances; \$2 a visit in town; \$1 a visit at house or office; consultation fee, \$25; confinement, \$20 (£4).



RANCH SCENE, ALBERTA.

Colonel Herchmer had kindly arranged to drive me in a four-horse police team across country to Lethbridge, *via* Fort Macleod, to see the big ranches of the district. We left at 2, and had a delightful drive over the prairie to the Quorn Ranch, 30 miles. A great part of the country seemed settled up, but there was very little cultivation. Some wheat and oats were still uncarried, and looked worth very little. There were no green crops. Cattle and horses were scattered about. Some of the creeks were very steep, and required a good deal of driving

to get over. The land seemed first-rate, but cold; there were patches of snow about.

When we arrived, there were numbers of cowboys and others about, as they had been collecting some 500 steers and 120 bulls to send off to market. The manager was dangerously ill in Calgary, but we were kindly looked after by a young gentleman named Douglas, from Market Harboro', and others. The ranch covers 17 square miles, and is held on lease. There are fine buildings, yards, &c. They have 1,200 horses (200 of which are imported Irish mares), 12 stallions, and 3,000 head of cattle; no sheep. One of the most remarkable features of the place is that they got 2,000 head of cattle from Ontario last year, one and two year olds, at prices varying from \$20 to \$25 each. Will pay well as three and four year olds at \$40. It must be remembered that neither horses nor cattle ever get an oat, except the stallions. Mares foal, generally alone, in the open. They employ eight men all the year round.

Oct. 17.—We went to bed last night in one room; it was warm and comfortable. We had plenty of nice soft blankets and comfortable mattresses, but (as is customary on many ranches) there were no sheets. We got up at 6 o'clock to see 600 head of cattle, including 120 bulls, driven out of the corral, attended by cowboys, &c. We stood in the corral, a little on one side, while they were carefully driven out and counted, previous to going to be shipped on the train at Calgary. It was a curious and pretty sight to see them wending in a long file up the slope, tended by the men. They were to have a day's rest, so were turned out for the day, guarded by two or three cowboys. These latter were very picturesque fellows, with their peaked saddles, ropes, revolvers, &c. The latter are very useful to wound (without much hurting) a refractory bull who is given to charging. There were five or six degrees of frost this morning, and the ground was quite hard till 9 o'clock, when the sun came out brilliantly.

We left the Quorn Ranch about 9 o'clock, having left a card for Mr. Martin, one of the managers, a Leicestershire man. We had a splendid drive, in lovely weather, about 20 miles, to the High River Horse Ranch, belonging to a company, but managed by Mr. Macpherson, late of the 78th Highlanders. He kindly gave us luncheon, and we remained there some hours. They have 950 horses, three thoroughbred stallions, and a Norfolk trotter. They had 250 foals last year. The ranch extends over 60,000 acres, but only 8,000 are paid for, on lease at 2 cents an acre. They have also 1,280 acres of freehold. Their staff consists of manager and three men, and occasional help. Wages of latter at hay time, \$30 a month, and board; head man and wife, \$40 a month, and board. Coal is found near the surface at about seven miles' distance. Fine river and plenty of fish close by.

One rather disagreeable law holds good with these ranches—viz., that Government may dispossess you of them on certain terms by giving two years' notice.

Mr. Macpherson had about 150 mares and yearlings rounded up for us to see: some of the yearlings were most promising, and in many instances were much bigger than their dams. He had a com-

fortable little house, but went every day for meals to his foreman's house, the wife of the latter cooking for him.

We started again at 2 o'clock, and drove about 20 miles further to the North-West Cattle Company's Ranch. We drove over a splendid rolling prairie, with fine grass and many cattle. We passed rivers two or three times, and went up and down some very awkward banks, showing off the splendid driving of our teamster, a police constable; he would show some of our young bloods the way to handle four horses in an awkward spot. This is one of the largest ranches in the district, and is managed by Mr. Stimson, a Canadian gentleman. He was absent, but his wife received us most kindly, and made us most comfortable in a well-furnished house. Mrs. Stimson, being a Canadian, looks well after her own house, and all its domestic details. Here, as at Macpherson's, we walked some little distance to the men's house to have our meals. Mrs. Stimson did not seem to keep a servant in her own house.

Oct. 18.—We got up early, so as to have a good look at the horses, calves, &c. There are about 10,000 cattle and 800 horses on the ranch, which consists of about 240,000 acres, for which they pay 1 cent an acre a year on lease. We saw about 100 mares, and some two, three, and four year olds. For the latter they get up to \$120. They have 2,000 calves this year; they have just finished weaning them. They have sold many hundreds of steers this year, at an average of \$50 each, and have paid a dividend! We were shown some excellent stallions, the best I have seen in the country; a beautiful Kentucky thoroughbred—"Terror"—a descendant of the famous horse "Lexington," that I remember seeing run at Saratoga 26 years ago; and two very good Norfolk trotters—"President Garfield," by "Bay President," and "Sam Weller." These horses have nothing but hay all the winter, and were by no means in high condition. Their stables were not good enough for horses of this class.

After a delightful visit, we left at 10 o'clock, and drove 17 miles to the Little Bow River (or Cattle Company's) Ranch. This is managed by Mr. Cochrane, a Leicestershire man. He, a cousin, and Mr. Graham are owners of the ranch, which consists of about 60,000 acres, held on lease. They have about 1,100 cattle, including 100 pedigree Galloways, but no horses. Their land is so dry that they send all their cattle for the winter to another ranch, near the mountains. The proprietors go to England. Mr. Cochrane estimates the value of capital in the ranch at \$55,000; expenses, \$3,000 a year; receipts from sales, \$4,000. No interest has yet been paid on capital. We had luncheon with Mr. Corkran and his charming wife. The men of the farm (three) dined with us. Mr. Corkran seemed a real working man, and did a good deal of the labour himself. They had only one servant—a Chinaman. They showed us the heads of three wolves which they had killed the day before. Mrs. Corkran had killed one, single-handed, with only one dog to help her, after a hard chase. We also went and saw about 120 calves (20 pure Galloway), which were just being weaned. They are fed on hay for two or three weeks, and then turned out to take their chance. The looked wonderfully well,

as they well might, having been allowed to run with their mothers till now.

The weather all day was delightful—quite warm till 6 o'clock in the evening. After luncheon, we drove five miles further to a rest-house and post office, called Mosquito Creek. Here a police team from Macleod met us, and I parted with my kind friend Colonel Herchmer, who went back to Calgary, about 60 miles. I cannot say how good and useful he had been to me, as without him I should not have seen half the ranches and their kind owners.

I must not forget to mention that on our journey we saw wolves, cayotes, and badgers, but little game.

Mosquito Creek and a small section of land is all that belongs to a large tract that Mr. Morton Frewen and his company had in this part of America.

It was rather dreary work travelling now by myself, without my cheery companion, particularly as there was nothing to interest me on the road. I went for 22 miles without seeing a house or a head of cattle, and three Indians were the only things alive that we saw. It got quite dark at last, and I was glad indeed to arrive, about 7.30, at a most comfortable rest-house, kept by Mr. and Mrs. Craig, who have a small ranch, rest-house, &c.

Got up early on Oct. 19th, and looked round Mr. Craig's ranch. It is part of the great Oxley Ranch, and in consequence of disputes he will probably have to leave his house. At present he has 250 cattle and 20 horses on a 640-acre section.

The Oxley Ranch is a large one—some 250,000 acres—owned by a company; Lord Lathom, Mr. Staveley Hill, and Mr. G. Baird are the principal share-owners. I am told they have only 6,000 head of cattle, but I think they must have more, as they have just rounded up 1,500 or so of steers to send to Montreal. I could not gather that they ever earn a dividend.

I started with the team at 9.15, and drove parallel to the Porcupine Hills for some hours. We were principally on the Oxley Ranch, but also passed several small ranches, owned mainly by Canadians, who, I heard, were doing well. As they were a mile or so off the trail, I did not visit them. It is unfortunate for travellers that almost all the houses of ranches are away from the trail, and, being hidden in ravines, are not seen, unless you make a special visit. The road was dreary enough, but not so bad as yesterday. We saw some cattle. We passed to-day, as one does constantly, numbers of buffalo bones. It is extraordinary to think how suddenly this poor animal has disappeared.

The whole day it has blown a chinook wind, and felt warm. This wind is much relied on in winter to take away the snow. It does it in a most extraordinarily rapid manner. It seems doubtful, however, if this is an advantage or not. At about 1.30 we crossed what must be a very nasty passage at times—the Old Man's River—and shortly I found myself in comfortable quarters with Major Steele, of the Constabulary, at Fort Macleod.

Oct. 19.—I went to call on Col. Macleod and on the clergyman, and

meant to go to church, but found, when I wanted to go, that it was past the time. Telegraphed to Lethbridge for sleeping berth, but found that no sleeping car went on Mondays, so determined to go and see the Cochrane Ranch, where, I was given to understand, I was expected.

I had heard that a successful man in this country was a Mr. Mollison, who farmed about five miles from here. He came to see me this morning (Oct. 20th). I found him a shrewd, clever Scotchman. He had only been here two or three years, but was doing well. He was one year with the Lister Kaye's farms, but he found things so hopeless there that he left. He owns 320 acres. Can grow good vegetables (he showed specimens), and keeps milk cows and horses. Next year he hopes to try irrigation. He has four girls and three boys; two of the former are managing the delightful hotel at North Bend, on the Fraser River, of which I spoke when going to Victoria. He was quite satisfied that this part of Canada would be a success.

Mr. Mollison was good enough to write me the following letter about his experiences:—

WILLOW CREEK, FORT McLEOD, October 24, 1890.

A portion of my family entered upon this farm in June of last year (1889), two of my sons having purchased from the former occupant, who had held the subject for some four years. The farm extends to 320 acres, being two quarter-sections. The purchase price was \$1,600. Besides the land and fencing there were a few buildings. There were also some useful implements—viz., two good ploughs, a set of excellent new harrows, a good two-horse roller, a new mowing machine, a waggon, and a horse rake: the latter two implements were quite half worn. There were a pair of old horses and some harness. About 40 acres crop was in the ground, consisting of oats and wheat, with about two acres potatoes. The price named—viz., \$1,600—covered the whole. I joined my family in October, 1889, and we immediately commenced the erection of a new dwelling-house. The house consists of kitchen, a sitting room and parlour, six bedrooms, with four other apartments. Neither I nor any of my sons had ever done regular carpenter work, but we were determined to show what pioneer settlers, however unskilled, might and could do. We have also completed a ring fence—post and wire—around the farm, save on the south side, which is bounded by the creek, which, unless when very low, is a sufficient fence. We have also enclosed about two acres for garden and vegetable ground with a wattle fence, which forms a shelter as well as a fence; and we broke up of the original prairie 50 acres, which we laid down in oats and wheat.

There are a few gravel knolls throughout the farm, and several portions that have been washed away by the creek when in flood—in all from 50 to 60 acres. The remainder of the farm consists of a deep dark brown loam of extraordinary good quality, friable and easily worked, and capable of growing enormous grain and root crops. This year—which has been one of several very dry ones—the grain crop was light, but notwithstanding the drought we have just finished the securing of a magnificent root crop. Swedish turnips not under 25 tons per acre; mangolds about the same; potatoes about five tons, and the best quality I have ever seen in the old country. We have also had enormous crops of onions and carrots. Of the former we shall have quite one ton to sell at present; the price is 6 cents per lb.

During my two years' experience in the North-West Territories, extending from foot-hills of the Rocky Mountains to Winnipeg, I am satisfied there is only one adverse circumstance connected with the cultivation of crops in the greater portion of the vast region I have referred to, and that is the protracted periods of drought that sometimes prevail; and when these occur during July—as was the case in some portions of the North-West this year—the grain crop may be, and sometimes is, cut off entirely. It is true that unseasonable frosts sometimes occur, but these are by no means serious, and in Southern Alberta—unless very near the mountains—



such is seldom known to do injury to crops. Of course everyone knows that our winters are severe, but in Alberta at least they are much less severe than further east; and although frost often occurs  $10^{\circ}$ ,  $20^{\circ}$ , and even  $40^{\circ}$  to  $50^{\circ}$  below zero, still with sufficient clothing there is no discomfort whatever, and many outdoor operations may be performed with much more comfort than like work could be done with in either England or Scotland in the severity of the winters prevailing there.

In Southern Alberta, of course, up to the present time, ranching—that is, the breeding and rearing of cattle, also horses to a considerable extent—is the great prevailing business of settlers, as well as of many large companies, and already a great number of magnificent stock will be found on the several ranges—upwards of 10,000 head of cattle, and perhaps 10,000 horses. The stamp of horses bred and reared is not altogether what would please old country horsemen, excepting those bred now on the Walrond Ranch. There from 400 to 500 Clydesdale mares, with some six or seven stallions of the same breed, are kept entirely for breeding purposes, and valuable young stock are being raised, which will ultimately find their way into the best markets of the world. The cattle bred on many of the large ranches, such as the Cochrane Ranch, the Walrond Ranch, and some others, are simply magnificent, and such as, I venture to say, would put in the shade anything to be found in either Scotland or England, excepting show stock of these great cattle countries. Not only are these ranch stock great in style and weight, but they are finished entirely on the natural grasses of the vast prairie, fitting them for the greatest beef markets of the world. It may be true that the best of these animals on landing in the United Kingdom will appear somewhat short of the description here given, but when it is borne in mind that they are virtually wild animals, and subjected to the absolutely rough handling and protracted journey of not less than 6,000 miles by land and sea, when during many days of the first part of the journey they can scarcely be got to eat or drink, it need not surprise anyone that they should be sadly depreciated, both in appearance and actual value, as butchers' beasts.

I have a very decided conviction that the time is not far distant when in Southern Alberta we shall find great slaughtering depôts springing up, with tanneries and canning branches in connection, so leading up to a great dead meat exportation, thus leaving not less than 30 per cent. more profit to the owners of ranch stock. For it is notorious that the great ranching companies of Southern Alberta, with very few exceptions, are at present far from paying concerns. For this there may be many reasons. To begin with, there is room for great improvement in the management. It is contrary to all reason that such enormous numbers of breeding cattle should be allowed to *run together*—bulls, cows, heifers of all ages, steers, &c.—throughout the entire year, more particularly when the severity of Canadian winters has to be kept in view. It is not only an enormous loss in calves that is thus caused, but it is too well known that not only yearling heifers, but calves of 10 to 11 months, while still sucking their dams, often come in heat and run with the bulls—sadly detrimental to their own ultimate growth and constitution, and producing calves not one out of every ten of which will withstand their first winter.

The time draws near when this system must be changed; and nothing will lead up to it sooner than opportunities for watching properly managed *small* herds, which will in the no distant future come to be more numerous in Southern Alberta than at present; for there cannot be a doubt that mixed farming will not only give a better return, but will lead up to more rapid settlement of this vast and most valuable portion of the Dominion. The immediate prospect of railway communication to many parts of Alberta, hitherto all but unknown, leading up to the great mining regions, will undoubtedly promote the introduction of useful settlers, who will not be slow to practise dairying, and hog and poultry raising, all of which will necessitate that description of mixed farming most suited to this part of Alberta, as well as best suited for the class of settlers it is desirable to see here.

Those peculiarly interested in ranching, and those entrusted with its management, may consider the remarks of an outsider gratuitous and uncalled for. But be that as it may, it is notoriously well known that there is a want of energy and activity in the caretaking of stock during the severity of winter, which, away from the loose system I have spoken of as applicable to breeding, calls for improvement. Cow-boys are much too independent, and are very careful to keep as much within doors

In stormy weather as possible; whilst weak stock, both milking cows and calves, will be found huddling together when they happen to be overtaken by the blizzard or storm. There they will lie down and die, whereas a little timely attention would certainly have saved their lives. If hand feeding could not have been provided, the weak animals might, if seen in time, have been drawn to some shelter until the storm blew over. Cowboys are very highly paid as well as very expensively fed. Wages, \$40 per month, with board, which on most of the large ranches costs \$14 to \$15 in addition. "If you won't pay us so, do without us." With this sort of thing fully in view, it is worth while considering whether it would not be advisable for the manager of every ranch to engage two or more boys yearly, 14 to 16 years of age, and have them trained to the saddle, and practised in "throwing the rope" and other cowboy duties. Such lads might readily be got for their board and \$5 per month, and would ensure the necessary supply of cowboys of the right stamp, who would have greater interest in their work, and, if given employment during the whole year, might be expected to continue after training at about half the rate of wage now paid.

At present it is, I believe, provided by law that sheep shall not be allowed to graze beyond a certain fixed line in Southern Alberta. I am not alone in believing that such a rule is a mistake. I am not, however, by any means an enthusiastic believer in sheep being found in all respects a paying and successful class of stock for the great prairies of the West. They cannot be safely allowed to wander over the ranges as cattle now are: they must be corralled at night, and kept under comparatively close control during the day, otherwise certain losses would occur from wolves, coyotes, Indian dogs, &c. And again, in winter, while cold most prevails, they must be kept in small flocks, otherwise they crowd together at night, jumping on the top of each other to such an extent that hundreds have been lost in a single night by being smothered or trampled to death. It will therefore be seen that proper sheep management on the great open prairies will remain a very expensive matter. It is difficult, however, to see any reasonable objection to sheep being allowed the same liberty in Southern Alberta as elsewhere in the North-West. I believe one good result would ultimately follow—viz., that the quiet handling of sheep by the use of well-trained dogs would lead up to the same quiet way of handling cattle, in place of the mad galloping style of mounted cowboys, which I hold to be most destructive to cattle of all ages and in all conditions.

Many of the large ranchers in Southern Alberta hold that this vast region is only suited for ranching purposes, and would be pleased to find that neither small settlers nor even railways should invade their vast domains. I am, however, persuaded that—given railway communication as now projected—no part of the North-West Territories, from Manitoba to the Rocky Mountains, is so well adapted for mixed farming, including dairying, as Southern Alberta. This portion of the North-West—keeping away from the actual foot-hills—is less liable to frosts, either in spring or autumn, than any other portion of the Territories. Protracted droughts, with scorching hot winds in July, will sometimes prevail, doing serious damage; but for these, the finest and heaviest grain and root crops may be raised. Water is in greater abundance and of purer quality than will be found anywhere else in the Territories. Winters are of short duration, and the ever-recurring chinook winds will in a single hour change the most severe winter's day to one of equal mildness to that of the South of England. Give us the right class of settlers, and Southern Alberta will speedily speak for itself. We want working men with families,—men who have been accustomed to farm work and the handling of stock, with some knowledge of dairy management, also capable of erecting their own buildings and fences. It is this class of settlers we want, possessed of some capital—not less than £100 after landing at the point of settlement fixed upon. Of course, double the amount named would be better; but those possessed of capital raising them above the position of working men are far less likely to succeed here than the class I have named. Industrious, hard-working men, with rising, active families, cannot fail in attaining a position much beyond what they could ever realise in the old country.

I have said that some knowledge of dairying is important. It would be found so in any part of the Territories, but much more so in Southern Alberta. In no other part is the pasturage so rich and abundant, and in no other part is water so pure and plentiful. And I venture to say that in no other part of the world can

better butter be made. I believe the dry, pure atmosphere has a good deal to do with this; for I have seen finer flavoured butter turned out of a small dairy where only the most common appliances were in use, and where no special knowledge of dairying existed, than I have ever tasted in Scotland or England. Butter here sells quite as high as in England; just now it is 35 cents per lb. Potatoes are now selling freely at 2½ cents per lb.; onions, 6 cents; carrots, 5 cents; cabbage, 4 cents; Swedish turnips, 2 cents per lb. These, it will be seen, are great prices. They are much the same as last year, but, of course, are not likely to be maintained for many years. I have only quoted the articles I am now selling.

Implements of every sort suited for the farm are high in price, but generally of excellent quality. A good milk cow will cost \$40, and a useful work horse \$80 to \$100. Hired labour is very expensive—\$25 to \$35 per month, with board, the latter of a much higher standard than is allowed working men in either Scotland or England—beef or bacon at least twice a day, and tea or coffee at every meal.

JAS. MOLLISON.

P.S.—I should have liked to say something on the importance of planting forest trees throughout a great portion of Alberta, and the need for some imperative and thorough means of preventing prairie fires. I may notice that I have here a small nursery of forest trees raised from seed, numbering several thousand; these will be ready for permanently planting out in spring.

J. M.

Oct. 20.—Colonel Macleod, Mr. Peters, and I started in a four-horse team from barracks at Macleod at 10, and drove 32 miles to the celebrated Cochrane Ranch, owned by Mr. Cochrane, a gentleman well known in Lower Canada as a breeder of Shorthorns, &c. The country was uninteresting for the first 20 miles, and the prairie poor, but as we approached the ranch it improved. We were gradually nearing the mountains (S.W.) the whole journey. We were received in the kindest way by Mr. Cochrane's youngest son, a particularly nice, well-dressed man, with none of the cowboy about him. The house was most comfortable, and we stayed there the night. There are about 200,000 acres in the ranch, which runs up in undulating plains towards the Rockies, and, in fact, up their lower spurs, where is the best grass. They have about 12,000 head of cattle and 100 horses. Many of the best cattle are Herefords. They have sent 1,000 head to England this month in charge of the second brother. The first lot sold at £17 each at Liverpool. They have about 2,000 calves this year. They lose a considerable number by wolves. They spey all the heifers they do not want, and have been very successful with them. The average of 500 steers sent last year to Montreal was 1,450 lbs., live weight. One they tried for themselves weighed 1,044 lbs., dressed. Mr. Cochrane considers that a beast loses 200 lbs. in transit from here to Liverpool; cost of carriage as above, £6 to £7. He considers that 60 to 40 will represent the proportion of good meat and offal respectively, but he could not say that these weights had been properly tested with cattle fed only on the prairie. Mr. Cochrane considered that Herefords did better than anything else on the ranch. The company has paid a good dividend this year.

In the afternoon, we went several miles to look at cattle, all of which were as fat as possible. I had my first ride since I came to the country, and felt it very delightful to gallop over the prairie. We took a lot of Scotch greyhounds and other dogs with us, and had a good run after a coyote, or prairie wolf, which we killed after a two miles' gallop. It was quite dark when we came back to the comfortable

house, where we were all put up without difficulty. Mr. Cochrane has a housekeeper, and all seemed in apple-pie order.

We left Mr. Cochrane's hospitable house at 8 a.m., Oct. 21st and drove 11 miles to "Standoff," where a new police station was being built for the Government by officers and men of the police force, under the directions of Mr. Peters, my companion, who is Government clerk of the works. He tells me that the police can build these places quite as well and much cheaper than if done by contract. It can well be imagined what excellent practice this is for the police, who often after a few years retire from the force and make first-rate settlers.

A man whose brother exports cattle to England gave me the following information, which I confirmed after:—Pays  $2\frac{1}{2}$  cents per lb., live weight; cost of carriage from any part of Manitoba to Montreal, 65 cents for 100 lbs.; 1,200 lbs. of live weight would be landed at Liverpool for \$54 (£11).

We passed a good many small ranches, and then travelled for miles through the Blood Indian Reserve. This consists of some 300,000 acres of the best land, situated on a fine river (the Waterton). We met numbers of the Indians, with their picturesque wives, on ponies, dragging behind them poles with household goods, and perhaps a baby on the top. They were probably shifting from their summer quarters in teepees (tents) to the hundreds of houses belonging to them situated on the river. My companion (Colonel Macleod) knew several of them by name, such as One Spot, Red Wing, Red Wing's Wife, &c., and they greeted one another affectionately. At one place we came upon the officer in charge of the Reserve, who turned out to be a Mr. Pocklington, son of a well-known lawyer at Boston. He has been 17 years in this country, and, like many other Government officials, began as a constable in the police force. At this place I parted with Colonel Macleod, who returned to Fort Macleod with Mr. Pocklington.

Mr. Peters and I continued our journey, and after passing two very nasty rivers, which are not pleasant now, and most dangerous at certain seasons, I arrived at Lethbridge, after some 200 miles of delightful driving over the prairies, and seeing many small, besides several very large, ranches in the most agreeable way, and with pleasant companions.

The weather has been most delightful the greater part of the time, and the last two days we have experienced the chinook wind.

There are an immense number of English and Scotch gentlemen engaged in ranching in these parts. Of course I did not see a twentieth part of them, but I gathered that many are working without making a fortune. I collected a few of the names of the most prominent ones in the district, and I here give them, before closing my remarks on the ranches:—

|                               |     |     |     |          |
|-------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|----------|
| 1. Rawlinson Brothers         | ... | ... | ... | English. |
| 2. Bevan & Ricardo            | ... | ... | ... | "        |
| 3. Bow River Co. (E. Elliott) | ... | ... | ... | "        |
| 4. Cowan (doing well)         | ... | ... | ... | "        |
| 5. Bell Irving (doing well)   | ... | ... | ... | Scotch.  |
| 6. Critchley                  | ... | ... | ... | English. |
| 7. Quorn Ranch (Martin, &c.)  | ... | ... | ... | "        |

|                                     |             |             |     |     |                     |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-----|-----|---------------------|
| 8. Brealey Brothers                 | ...         | ...         | ... | ... | English.            |
| 9. Dr. Winton                       | ...         | ...         | ... | ... | "                   |
| 10. Captain Coppick                 | ...         | ...         | ... | ... | "                   |
| 11. Newbolt...                      | ...         | ...         | ... | ... | "                   |
| 12. Goldfinch                       | ...         | ...         | ... | ... | "                   |
| 13. Alexanders                      | ...         | ...         | ... | ... | "                   |
| 14. C. C. Ranch—T                   | Corkran,    | W. Corkran, |     |     |                     |
|                                     | Hugh Graham | ...         | ... | ... | English and Scotch. |
| 15. Ross & Podger                   | ...         | ...         | ... | ... | English.            |
| 16. Skrine ..                       | ...         | ...         | ... | ... | "                   |
| 17. Sampson & Harford               | ...         | ...         | ... | ... | "                   |
| 18. Oxley Ranch (manager, Finhorue) | ..          | ...         | ... | ... | "                   |
| 19. Somerton                        | ...         | ...         | ... | ... | Irish.              |
| 20. Ikin                            | ...         | ...         | ... | ... | English.            |
| 21. Greg Brothers                   | ...         | ...         | ... | ... | "                   |
| 22. Thorpe                          | ...         | ...         | ... | ... | "                   |
| 23. Mrs. Bedingfield                | ...         | ...         | ... | ... | "                   |
| 24. Knox                            | ...         | ...         | ... | ... | Irish.              |
| 25. Trip (two)                      | ...         | ...         | ... | ... | Welsh.              |
| 26. Fraser                          | ...         | ...         | ... | ... | English.            |
| 27. Leeds & Elliott                 | ...         | ...         | ... | ... | "                   |
| 28. Jenkins...                      | ...         | ...         | ... | ... | "                   |

Pincher Creek and Macleod have many English ranchmen in the neighbourhood.

Lethbridge is the headquarters of the coal district, and busy work is being done here. The town is the neatest Western town I have seen, though only of a few years' growth. The houses of the miners are principally built by the Galt Company, who own the mines and railway. I was met here by young Mr. Galt, the son of Sir A. T. Galt, whom I recollect seeing in England. Mr. Galt kindly gave me a pass on their railway, and provided a sleeping car for me. It was too late in the evening for me to see much of Lethbridge, but it is evidently a rising place. I was allowed to sit by the stove in Mr. Galt's office for some hours, and dried the clothes in my trunk, which had got wet while crossing the river.

Mr. Peters took me to a restaurant here. We got excellent mutton chops, well done, and good roast potatoes and "fixings," for 50 cents.

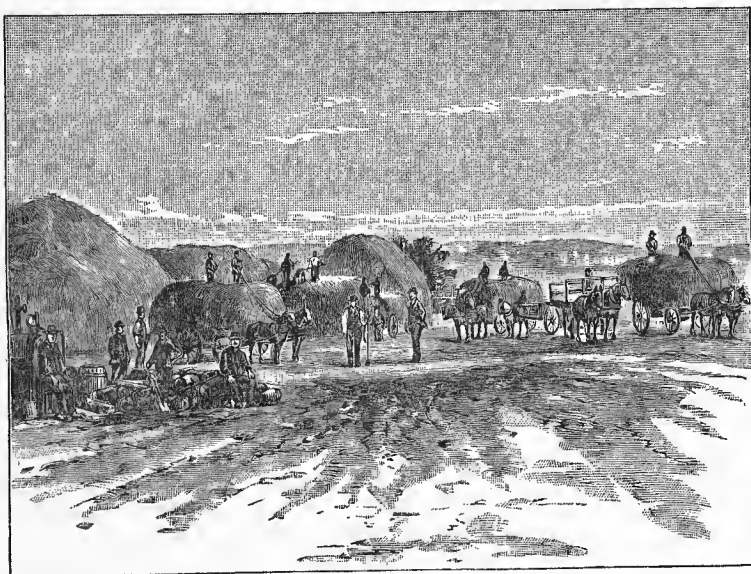
I went into one of the miner's houses. He was civil, as usual, and asked me to sit down while answering questions. He was getting first-rate pay—some \$4 a day, and only paid \$1 a month for his house of two rooms.

We got into a small sleeping compartment of a car on the line from Lethbridge to Dunmore, and arrived at the latter about 5 o'clock in the morning of the 22nd. We remained in the car till 8. Went and had breakfast at an hotel, and came back to join the main line train at 10 a.m.

Snow began to fall, and continued slightly all day. Passed quantities of heaps of buffalo bones, collected by half-breeds. They get \$7 a ton. They are used for refining sugar at Chicago. Passed Regina, Moosomin, &c., during the night.

Oct. 22.—We passed through a grand district, particularly between Virden and Brandon, and some 20 miles beyond Portage-la-Prairie. At one station there were three elevators. There were farm-houses the whole way, and a nice sprinkling of cattle. A good deal of fall ploughing had been done; but there was still a good deal of corn standing in the

stook. Unusually wet weather has interfered lately with the harvest. I did not see many cattle. Nearer to Winnipeg we came to poorer land, with a good many cattle; there were a few trees on sandy hills. After that the land was good, but very wet, and so it continued all the way to Winnipeg. These last 20 or 30 miles are of the finest wheat land, but require draining. The soil is a rich black mould. It sticks to wheels and boots like india-rubber when half dry. We passed A. Willson's late farm about 14 miles before we got to Winnipeg at 4.30 in the afternoon.



FARM SCENE, MANITOBA.

Before leaving Manitoba, I should mention that I never saw or heard of a policeman there, except at Winnipeg. They must be a law-abiding race. Sundays are wonderfully well kept. Nothing is seen of the rowdyism of the Western towns of the States, where I am told gambling saloons are kept open most of the Sunday. In every small town there are Church of England, Presbyterian, Methodist, and Roman Catholic churches.

Oct. 24.—I called on the Mayor of Winnipeg. He immediately called a reporter, who took down roughly what I said. This, with a portrait (?), appeared in the afternoon issue of the paper. I went up the tower of the City Hall—a very handsome building—and got a fine view of the town. Visited the market; got a splendid potato (Henderson's Early Puritan) to take to England. Also got from Messrs. McBean Brothers a beautiful specimen of Ladoga wheat grown near Prince Albert; sown 22nd April, harvested 15th August; weight, 65½ lbs. per bushel (valued at Liverpool at 40s. a quarter).

I also called on the Bishop of Rupert's Land. Going to his house was like travelling through the "Slough of Despond," the road was in such a state. No wonder taxes are low! He is in charge of, and I believe instituted, a large university and school for Church of England boys. The place looked as if it would require a larger income than that provided by 60 or 70 boarders. The Bishop, however, told me that they had good endowments, and a good deal of land belonging to the college. The Bishop has been 25 years in the country, and seen its growth.

The hotel-keeper of the hotel I am staying at here, and the proprietor of the principal hotel at Regina, were talking to me to-day. The former said he paid \$15 a month to his waiting women, the latter \$25! When I said governesses were not better paid, the Regina man said two of his maids had been governesses in the old country. I heard yesterday from a gentleman in the train that many of the waiters in the summer hotels in New England are students, &c., who spend their holidays in that way!

There is an excellent club at Winnipeg, of which I was made honorary member. I met many pleasant people there.

Left Winnipeg at 10.45 a.m., Oct. 25th; travelled due south. The land for the first 40 miles was wet, and not much cultivated. It is held by speculators. It seemed to be fine land, but would want some draining. Towards Morris much of the land was taken up, and quantities of wheat were in stacks, and being threshed; at Morris there were three elevators at work.

We crossed the frontier into the United States at Gretna. From this place the land seemed very fine; great quantities of wheat in stack, and large breadths of fall ploughing done. A good deal of business seemed to be doing at the villages on the line. At Great Forks joined the great line west to Omaha, &c. Travelled all night, arrived at St. Paul's, Minnesota, at 7.40 a.m. on 26th.

Yesterday, on train, met Mr. Abel Smith, brother of E. Smith, whom I had seen hunting in Lincolnshire. He is travelling with his wife, and we went together to the "Ryan," a splendid hotel at St. Paul's. Food excellent. Went to a nice church in the morning, and took a drive of one and a half hours in afternoon.

St. Paul's has increased 100,000 inhabitants in the last 20 years. It is beautifully situated on the Mississippi, and is a very fine town. There are splendid private houses, and here, as at Toronto, there are wide grass plots to every house, but no division fences. There are trees planted in all the outside streets, which must make the place look charming in summer. There are electric, ordinary, and "rope" tram carriages, and three slender-looking bridges over the river; they are made sloping, and look very curious, as they are an immense height over the bed of the stream. The latter has little water in it at present. The falls of St. Anthony ("Minni-ha-ha") are about eight miles off.

This was a lovely day, clear and cold. There were numbers of people driving about—a great many more private carriages than one would see on a Sunday in London; but I can safely say that I did not see one good-looking, well-fed, or well-groomed horse among the whole lot. The looks of the American horses have not improved since I saw them last—26 years ago—and are very disappointing to me.

I had a fine choice of lines from here to Chicago, as there are six or seven rival ones.

I left St. Paul's at 7.30 in the evening of 26th, and arrived at Chicago at 9.30 on 27th. I was up at 6 o'clock; bright frosty morning. Found myself going through a rich country, well settled; quantities of Indian corn *stalks*, no wheat or fallow, no turnips; great quantity of cattle. At Forest Home passed a large chicken-rearing farm. Went to the "Grand Pacific," a splendid hotel.

Oct. 27.—After breakfast, called on Armour & Co. Mr. Armour was most kind—ordered a carriage, and sent a gentleman named Lockwood with a carriage to show me the stockyards, &c. We went along miles of fine buildings and beautiful private residences, and past a magnificent Mission Home and buildings, erected by Mr. Armour and given to the State (Illinois).

Messrs. Armour kill about 40,000 hogs a week, and from 15,000 to 20,000 cattle, besides sheep. They employ 7,000 men, and in one office I saw 300 clerks. Their trade is principally home, about one-third of the beasts killed being used for canning and sausages; the hogs are sold as bacon.

To show how people work in this country, Mr. Lockwood said he was always at the office at 6 a.m.; Mr. Armour himself is there at 7.

The profits of Armour & Co. consist principally of money made by offal, used for glue, blood fertilisers, butterine, &c.; the latter is an immense business. I tasted some of the best butterine. It seemed quite as good as much of the butter I have tasted in inns in England. 1st grade, 17 cents; 2nd grade, 14 cents; 3rd grade, 11½ cents per lb. (8½d., 7d., and 5½d.) It is made principally from the fat of the beasts, intestines of pigs, &c. A good deal of cream is mixed with the best brands. Government charges 2 cents per lb. duty on the butterine. It is all stamped as such.

Many of the cattle killed seemed poor, but I saw a few good lots in the yards. One large lot averaged 1,315 lbs., live weight. None were fat according to our ideas, but they average about 54 per cent. when dressed. The very best had got to 58 per 100.

I could not gather that any number of live cattle went from Chicago to England.

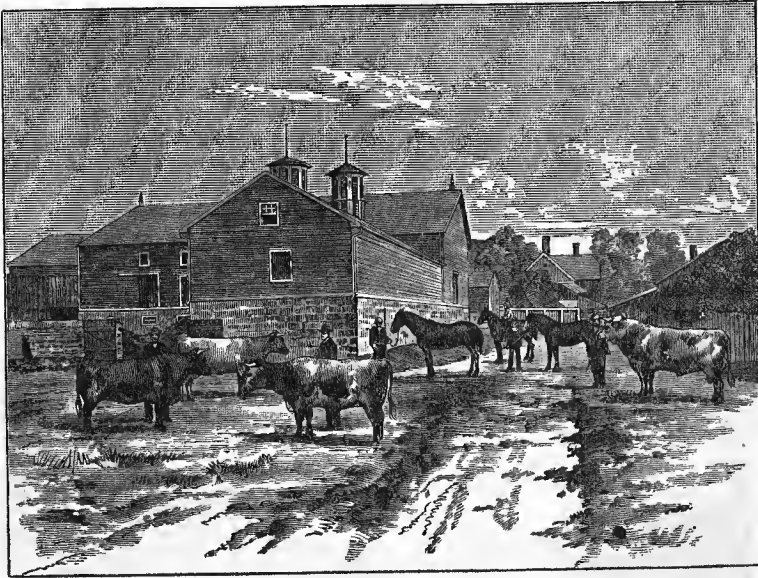
Oct. 28.—Left Chicago at 10.30 a.m.; travelled all day through the State of Michigan. Passed great quantities of fields of cabbage; no turnips. For miles from Chicago the land was laid out in building lots. We were passing across railways and through towns all day. Very prosperous-looking farm-houses; most of them had windmills to draw water. No fall wheat to be seen. Some good land, and large tract of swampy land. Arrived at Port Huron at 9 p.m., and crossed into Canada, by railway ferry, to Sarnia. Enormous business seems to be done on this line here (Grand Trunk). Arrived at London, Ontario, at 11.30 p.m.

On train, was asked by the negro attendant if I wanted dinner, as follows: "Would you like dinner, uncle?"

Oct. 29.—I knew no one in London, but soon became acquainted with several gentlemen, who volunteered their services to me. Mr.



Webster, the Member for the county, drove me out to Mr. Luard's, a Lincolnshire man; and in the afternoon Mr. Weld, editor of *Farmer's Advocate*, drove me 13 miles to see the town water works and pleasure grounds, and on to Mr. Gibson's, who owns a farm called the Belvoir Farm, of 300 acres.



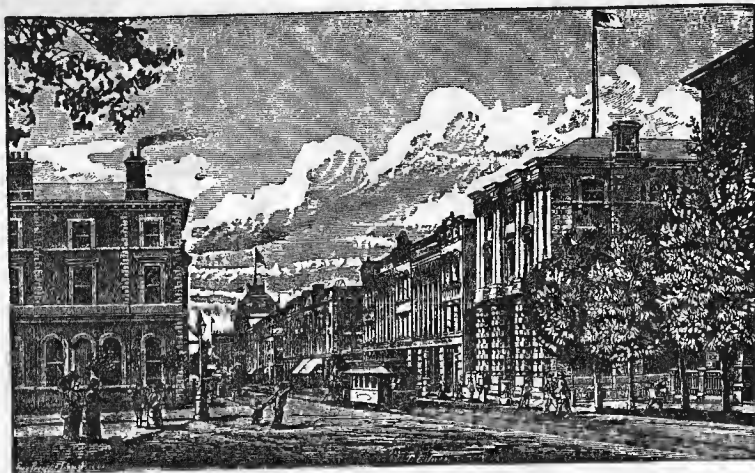
AN ONTARIO FARM.

I found Mr. Gibson was a Lincolnshire man, who had been at school at Broughton. He received me most kindly, and showed me all about his farm. The fall wheat both here and on the road to the Belvoir Farm looked most promising. The cultivation was evidently most excellent, and the land very good. This was altogether the best farm I have seen in the country. Mr. Gibson had a splendid Durham bull—"8th Duke of Leicester"—a flock of 60 pure-bred Downs, about 70 pure-bred Shorthorns, 40 or 50 pedigree Berkshires, and 100 beautiful turkeys. His house was a most comfortable one, and his wife (a Canadian) gave us a kindly welcome. Mr. Gibson began with nothing, but has now this farm, worth many thousands of dollars. He says he can get good men at \$1½ a day, and sometimes less. He grew 42 bushels of wheat to the acre on part of his farm this year. Sold it all for seed at \$1½ a bushel. He sells a good many pedigree animals, going over to England for them at times, as well as breeding. His Indian corn was first-rate. He feeds his animals in winter upon cut Indian corn (with the cobs), mixed with bran and turnips. He gives very little artificial food. His sheep are all under cover in the winter, and his beasts are all well housed; the young ones being shut in loose boxes in

pairs while feeding. The farm is both well watered and well timbered, and was altogether a most desirable-looking place both in looks and soil. The village of Delaware, close by, with its pretty church, among trees, made an attractive and most rural picture.

In driving to the Belvoir Farm we passed the water works of London, which are tastefully laid out with walks, &c. This place is much resorted to in the summer, and the view from the observatory was most beautiful, showing the winding of the river Thames below, and miles of woods, with good-looking farm-houses scattered about.

In the evening, had conversation with two nice girls (sisters), waiters, while I was having my supper. They have only been here two months. They saved enough money to come out, and now are saving to get a third (younger) sister out. They came from Torquay; mother dead; don't seem to care for their father. They got employment almost the first day they came. They get \$8 a month, and say they are as happy as possible. I asked why they came here, and they say it was because they wished to see what London in Canada was like. They had testimonials with them, but were never asked to show them.



A VIEW IN LONDON, ONTARIO  
(Richmond Street, looking south.)

Oct. 30.—Mr. Hodgins, a gentleman whose acquaintance I made yesterday, came at 9 o'clock to drive me out to his farms, stables, &c. He breeds extensively, besides buying young animals, from his own stock horses. He has several Cleveland and pure-bred stallions, and 60 or 70 brood mares. He deals a good deal with Withers, the horse dealer in Oxford Street, London; and he is now about to ship about 25 horses to England. Many of them are intended for the English carriage-horse market. I saw some remarkably good ones among them, most of them 16 hands high, with good action. They are all broken to harness on the farm, and I saw a very fine pair, three years old, leading

manure, that looked like making £200. He breeds also largely for the American trotting market, besides having several thoroughbreds which have been successful Queen's platers.

The stamp of horse I saw at Mr. Hodgens's was far superior to anything I had yet seen in Canada, and showed what can be done by judicious breeding. Mr. Hodgens is quite satisfied with the results, as far as balance-sheet is concerned, and has proved that more profit is to be made by horses than Shorthorns, particularly when foals or yearlings are bought from neighbouring farmers.

Mr. Hodgens tells me that an immense number of foals are bred in this district, 20 stallions standing at one station alone. He almost always breeds from his three-year-olds.

Mr. Hodgens tells me that many good farms about here, with fair houses on them, can be bought at from \$30 to \$40 an acre. He has rented some land himself at about \$2 an acre. There are apple orchards attached to most of the farms; this year they have been a failure, but some years they export a great number. The country is thickly settled, and would no doubt be a desirable one to live in, as labour is much cheaper than further west.



FARM SCENE, ONTARIO.

The town of London is handsomely laid out, and the agricultural buildings, park, &c., the best I have seen in the country. The whole of the ground round London is undulating and well timbered.

I inspected a cheese factory, of which there are many in the neighbourhood. The cheeses seemed very good, and are exported to Europe. The factory takes the milk of about 600 or 700 cows. The milk is weighed as it comes in, and the whey returned to the farmer

the next day. About one-third goes back in whey to the farmer for his pigs, &c. Cheese fetches  $10\frac{1}{2}$  cents per lb.; last year,  $8\frac{1}{2}$  to 9 cents.

In the afternoon, I inspected the flour mill, elevator, &c., of Mr. Rich. Mr. Rich is a Lincolnshire man, but came to this country about 35 years ago. He came with nothing, and is now a prosperous man.

A man called Linnell—with a nice wife—came to see me in the evening. Has been here 10 years; wishes he had come earlier. Is doing well; gets  $\$1\frac{1}{2}$  a day. His boy of 15 gets  $\$1$ . Has his own house in a village some miles off, with one acre of ground, but lets it, as he is living here at present. Pays  $\$7$  a month for his present house. Pays nothing for his children's schooling, but  $\$2$  a year for books. Can get good beef at 4 cents per lb. Says masons get  $\$2\frac{1}{2}$  a day; carpenters,  $\$2$  a day. Linnell's mother and brother live at Great Gonerby, Lincolnshire. He himself was confirmed at Fulbeck. Came three times to the hotel to-day, determined to find me. He had been at least in eight or nine different trades before he settled to his present one.

Oct. 30.—I left London at 12 at night, and in half an hour reached the small town of Ingersoll. During the evening was asked by a gentleman named Podmore to come and see the large shipping establishment for cheese, bacon, &c., of Messrs. Grant & Co. to-morrow morning.

Oct. 31.—Visited the establishment of Grant & Co. They do an extensive business in shipping bacon to England. They kill about 30,000 hogs a year, averaging about 16 stone apiece. The bacon is cut so as to suit different markets; that of Bristol being different from Liverpool; and they, again, vary in fancy with other places. The bacon is either singed or scalded, according to fancy of market. The bacon is all kept in iced cellars, and is ready for shipment 25 or 30 days after killing.

All refuse is used. The blood, &c., makes an excellent fertiliser when dried by a certain process, and sells at  $\$25$  a ton; the grease is pressed out and made into lard for home use; other parts are made into sausages and pork pies.

Messrs. Grant are also large exporters of cheese. About 150,000 boxes will go to England this year, each cheese averaging about 65 lbs. I tasted several, which were most excellent, some resembling Cheddar, and others Cheshire. All the best cheeses go to England.

There are an immense number of cheese factories in this neighbourhood, all worked pretty much on the same plan. The cheeses are kept in large iced cellars till ready for shipment. They are brought in from the factories between the months of June and November. The temperature of the ice cellars requires to be most regular, otherwise they would not keep. I tasted some a year old, which had not the slightest appearance of mould.

Messrs. Grant also deal a little in butter. There are not many creameries in the neighbourhood. I tasted some from a creamery, which was excellent. I then tasted some from a farmer, which was detestable. The difference in value between the two was  $20\frac{1}{2}$  cents and  $14\frac{1}{2}$  ( $10\frac{1}{2}$ d. and  $7\frac{1}{2}$ d.)!

In the afternoon, drove out eight miles to see H. Price's farm of 400

acres. He was away, so went on to Mount Elgin to see L. Price's farm of 250 acres. Passed numerous good farms and neat houses. Land thickly settled. Passed four cheese factories, and herds of 30 or more cows.

L. Price has 250 acres, about 50 of which are wood, &c. Has 36 cows; got last year \$1,200 for his milk. He also got 500 bushels of wheat from 17 acres. A good crop of Indian corn, peas, &c., splendid roots, and \$200 for apples. He has sold about 90 hogs this year, receiving \$800 for them. His farm pays well this year. Has 10 horses of sorts. He pays \$20 a month to his men, and they board themselves. Men, and now and then women, milk the cows. The great difficulty is female help. Mrs. Price did all the house work now, with very little assistance.

When I arrived, L. Price was putting an end to his barn, assisted by a great many neighbours, who give their work free (a "bee"); but this adds a deal to Mrs. Price's cooking labours. He wished me to sleep there, but I was anxious to leave Ingersoll this night. I just missed the train, however, and had to stay another night. We had a new experience to-day, having to pass through and pay at four turnpikes. We returned to Ingersoll a different way. All the country was pretty, and covered with comfortable farm-houses. There were few sheep, and not many horses, in the fields. All is given up to dairying.

My driver told me he only got 75 cents a day; an assistant in the stable would only get 50. He pays \$4 a month for a house with four rooms.

Nov. 1.—Left Ingersoll at 6.30 a.m. Went through Hamilton, &c., to Niagara Falls. Beautiful view of Hamilton from Dundas. Very little wheat land. Well timbered; good orchards; great many young peach trees; very few cattle; large vineyards; and pretty flowing rivers. Altogether the prettiest country I have seen. The station at Hamilton is much the neatest I have seen on this continent.

At Grimsby the orchards seemed very large, and the land very good, though wet. It probably looks worse than usual just now, as they have had constant rain for some weeks in these parts. At Thorold I took a carriage, and drove across eight miles to Niagara Falls. I meant to visit some farms, but it rained and sleeted the whole way. The roads were in a dreadful state, and were almost impassable when we got to Tramways, near Niagara Falls.

I found the Clifton House shut up, so went to a small hotel near. I managed to get out in a carriage for a couple of hours in the afternoon, and tried to see some people connected with vineyards, &c., but did not find them. Drove up above the Rapids, &c. Place a good deal changed in the 26 years since I was here; the Horse-Shoe Fall altered, Table Rock gone, and the tower gone; but still the grandeur of the fall impressed me as much as ever, though I saw it under depressing circumstances. Had to stay in all the evening in a dull hotel; was interested, however, in the history the hotel-keeper told of himself. He was formerly in the 16th Lancers. He had tried many trades, such as brass polisher, agent for pianos, sewing machines, books, and many others which I don't recollect.

Nov. 2.—The rain was pouring down this morning, but I managed to get to the Episcopalian Church. I also saw the Presbyterian one, where I met a very nice minister—Mr. Younge—who came across from Thorold with me yesterday. I also looked into the Methodist Church. Both these latter were better fitted up than the Episcopalian.

As I could do no more at Niagara Falls, I left at 3 p.m., and got to Hamilton at 4.30. It poured the whole way, but I could see much of the country wanted draining. There were very few cattle in the fields, all being given up to orchards. It seems a pity there is not more mixed farming, as peaches have been a failure, and apples a bad crop this year. Grapes have been very plentiful, but only fetched  $2\frac{1}{2}$  cents a lb. I passed a factory for making them into wine. The country must be lovely in summer.

Nov. 3.—Went into the market this morning to look at the meat, &c. Vegetables not so good as in Manitoba. Beef poor; some good lamb, or, rather, young mutton: dressed, 60 lbs. apiece. Best cuts of beef,  $12\frac{1}{2}$  cents per lb.

Spoke to an old Devonshire butcher, who has been here 35 years (from Bideford). Has thirteen children—five sons all butchering in the States; three married daughters; the former consider Hamilton “slow.” Old man thinks that people have little power over their children in this country; they soon lose their influence over them.

Called on Mayor. Mr. Stewart took me to top of City Hall. Got a grand view of Hamilton.

Afterwards went to see the fire engine arrangements. A signal stops the clock, lights the gas, opens the great doors, &c. All ready to move in  $2\frac{1}{2}$  seconds. Horses seemed mad to get out of their stalls as soon as the signal was given. Wages of men, \$45 a month, and clothes. Have great number of applications for places.

Went with Mr. Hendry to see his horses. Mr. Hendry is the Pickford of Canada, and has here and in other places about 5,000 horses. He has the finest draught horses in Canada, all bought in the country or bred by himself; they are all out of country-bred mares by Shire, Clydesdale, or Suffolk Punches. He does not like Percherons. I saw some splendid teams. All are weighed, and matched, principally by weight, and some were 17.3 in height. The weight of two of them was 1,770 lbs. and 1,790 lbs. An ordinary pair would cost \$400. They can pull 9 tons on wheels, 11 tons on sledges. All wheel-making, cart-making, shoeing, &c., done on the premises. Shoeing averages \$2 a horse per month.

Mr. Hendry, jun., considers that the tallest horses have the greatest power of moving a heavy load.

Mr. Hendry drove me out to his farm, about six miles from Hamilton, to see his thoroughbred stock. His farm was a lovely one, composed of hills, valleys, timber, and having several small streams running through it. He had three thoroughbred stallions, one of them a great beauty—“Strathspey,” by “Glenelg,” out of “La Polka” (“Glenelg” was by “Citadel”). He had 64 animals on this farm, many of the thoroughbreds showing great substance. He has several horses in training, and we saw some of his yearlings gallop on his

private course. He showed me some splendid mares. The clover eddish on this farm showed an excellent plant. After spending some hours there, Mr. Hendry drove me to his charming residence overlooking the town, where I was received at luncheon by his family in the kindest way.

In afternoon, drove with Mr. Smith, Dominion Immigration Agent. Went to Mr. Barnes's, who has a large vinery, orchard, &c. Has 9 acres of apples—none sold this year; some pears—sold \$100; 20 acres of vines—sold 55 tons at  $2\frac{1}{2}$  cents a lb. = £27 an acre; no pigs; one cow; no peaches. Expense of garden, \$900 a year. Gives his head man \$300 a year, with house, and ground for vegetables; ordinary labourer, \$1 $\frac{1}{2}$  a day. Mr. Barnes is not a farmer.

Went to Dr. Stephenson's Children's Home for destitute children. This is a Wesleyan Mission Home, and seems admirably managed by Mr. and Miss Evans, assisted by a local board at Hamilton, and headquarters in London, England. The house is empty now, there being only one little fellow in it, aged 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ , who has been sick. He had never known his father and mother, he said. About 80 children (about proportion of three boys to two girls) came out last year, from age of 11 to 18—average about 14. All are applied for long before they come out; they had 120 applications for last arrivals.

People taking these children have to make a strict legal agreement before taking them, and they are always watched over by the institution. A banking book is kept for each. I saw, on looking at the ledger, that there are now 178 banking accounts, out of 400 now under supervision. Many of these children are adopted by the people who take them. The house is most comfortable and home-like.

Drove all round the bay, and across a new cut to the harbour, to Mr. Fothergill's farm, with Mr. Smith. This is one of the most substantial houses I have seen in Canada. Good rooms and kitchens, and splendid cellars, full of potatoes, apples, &c. He is a most cheery and hard-working man. His wife and daughter were milking when we arrived, and he was about to do the same.

Mr. Fothergill has some good stock, also about 40 cows. He sends the milk to Toronto. This farm has 240 acres, and three miles off he has another farm of 250 acres. He came out here from Northumberland about 30 years ago, with nothing. He has had 17 children—13 alive. Five of his sons are farming. His crops were indifferent this year—wheat, 27 bushels to acre; barley, 23 bushels to acre; oats, 40 bushels to acre. He has often had 80 or 90 bushels of oats to acre, and 40 of barley.

Mr. Fothergill prefers Clydesdales to Shires for this country. Pays his labourers 75 cents a day, ordinary work; \$1.50 at harvest time. Mr. Fothergill says you can rent good land at \$4 to \$5 an acre about here. Land on Middle Road (the best near Hamilton) is worth from \$80 to \$100 an acre. Got home at 8 p.m. Roads abominable.

Some Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire men came to see me in the evening. One—a tailor named Thorpe, from Nottingham—seemed a very intelligent man. He is quite satisfied, though his wife is a little

home-sick. They have been here three years. Gets good wages; but house rent and coals are dear. Complains, like me, of the meat. Hours, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., with an hour for dinner. Almost all piece-work.

Meant to go on to Toronto to-day; but heard that there was to be a ploughing match in the neighbourhood, so determined to stay to see it.

Nov. 5.—Drove with Mr. Hendry to see a ploughing match on a farm about four miles from Hamilton. There were 44 entries, including one Indian and nine boys. All farmers except three, who were hired men (who are considered the same as a farmer).

There were three classes for long (grey) ploughs; three classes for jointer ploughs; two classes for sulky ploughs. The long ploughs were all Scotch; jointer ploughs of Canadian manufacture. The jointer ploughs are used on clover stubble, to prevent any clover appearing above the surface. Ploughing, 6 inches deep; furrow from 8 to 10 inches.

The ploughing was good. The Indian got second prize in his class. But there were too many assistants—sometimes three to a plough—and the ridges were patted by hands and feet to make them look even; the excuse was that the ground was very wet. The sulky ploughs did their work well also.

There were also prizes for the best turned-out teams and harness, and a foot race for farmers. There were three or four very good teams on the ground—some Clydesdale, others lighter horses. Prizes ran from \$15 downwards; four prizes in each class.

Asked Mr. Smith, one of the best farmers in the neighbourhood, about his yield this year. Only got 20 bushels of wheat and barley to the acre. Never uses cake or artificial manure; considers turning over the sod of clover sufficient manure. Some top-dress the wheat after it appears above ground. Complains, much as we do in England, that the sons now want "rigs" (carriages), and the girls organs; and that times are not good in consequence.

Went on to Toronto in the evening. Stayed with Mr. Bridgeman Simpson.

Nov. 6.—Went to Barrie, about 50 miles. Land good in parts, but no very good-looking farms. Farms can be bought about here for about \$40 an acre, with house, &c.

Saw Barraud, tailor, from Fulbeck. Went to his house; saw his wife and four children. Has been out nine years. Had saved at one time about \$700, with own house and furniture, but lost all by fire. Gets \$9 a week when in work; his wages for year would average about \$7 a week. Wife does most of her own sewing. Books for school, about \$1 a year when children are young; more later. Barraud pays \$4½ a month house rent; has five rooms, all on ground floor, with back-yard for chickens, &c. Pays for beef 12½ cents per lb.; bread, 11 cents for 4-lb. loaf (but loaf does not weigh 4 lbs.); butter, 18 cents per lb.; coals, \$6 per ton; wood, \$3½ a cord (lasts a month in winter). Has now got his own furniture paid for, and is beginning to look up again.

Saw also at Barrie a young man named Brown, from Leadenham. Is doing remarkably well as a market gardener; wishes he had come out five years sooner. Used to get \$30 a month, and board, but has



now been admitted as partner in the business. Lives with his partner, and pays \$10 a month for board. Have 30 acres, 20 acres of which are strawberries. Have bothouses, &c., and sell plants in the spring.

Gave some advice to a farmer called Hutchinson, from Boston, who has just sold his place here, and is going west to Manitoba. Numbers of farmers from Ontario are doing the same.

Nov. 7.—Left Toronto, at 9, with Mr. Wade, a gentleman connected with the Agricultural Department of the province, and two of my fellow-delegates (the first I had seen since the 1st of October), for Whitby, about 30 miles. We passed some good land near Whitby, and some excellent cart-horses (Clydesdales). We drove to the farm of Mr. Dryden, who is Minister of Agriculture for the province. He entertained us at luncheon, and afterwards showed us some most superior Shorthorns and several young bulls in prime condition; also some excellent Shropshire ram lambs, and a Clydesdale mare with the best foal I have seen in the country. Mr. Dryden's father was one of the earlier importers of stock in this country, and his son carries on the business most judiciously. He farms about 400 acres, and lived on that only, till he became Minister. He has a most comfortable house, good barns, &c. I am sorry to say we had not time to walk over his farm. What we saw seemed well cultivated. We got back to Toronto at 6.30 p.m.

Dr. Barnardo has a Home in Toronto, which I visited to-day; it seemed admirably managed. There were no boys, however, in the house at the present moment. About 300 come out every year; they are all applied for long before they come, and there are now 30 or 40 applications from farmers on the books. Ages, from 12 to 16. Agreements in print are made with farmers, who keep them till they are 18, unless they separate by mutual consent. Almost all become farmers; no town applications are entertained. About 5 per cent. only returned for misconduct, &c. Farmers agree to pay \$100 at the end of their service; no great difficulty in getting the money. There are visitors going round to see the boys all the year. One gentleman I saw had just returned from an eight weeks' tour; had seen about 100 boys; had not had to remove one, and only slight faults found. The boys are placed in a district of about 160 miles north to south and 80 east to west. A good many of them have money in the Savings Bank to begin with when they are 18; they are not lost sight of, after that even, if possible. The boys come out in batches early in the spring, and go on to July; it is not advisable that they should come out later. Some farmers complain that they are slow; but of course they have all to learn. The superintendent thinks that about \$3½ a month would be the average earnings of a boy; of course he is found board, washing, and mending by the farmer.

Nov. 8.—Left Toronto at 9.15 at night, and got to Montreal at 8 a.m. on the 9th. Rain and sleet all day. In the evening met General Grant, who has a son who took up a section of 160 acres near Griswold, in Manitoba; has now, with a young man named Lawder, from Australia, 640 acres more, seven miles from Griswold; 150 of former are broken up. Had 105 acres of wheat and 45 acres of oats this year; got 25 bushels of wheat to acre this year. Have 25 head of cattle, mare and foal, and

five other horses, one team oxen, 20 hogs. House of four rooms and kitchen. Neither of young men had anything to begin with, but have had from friends about \$1,000 since. They are now running a livery stable also, and consider themselves worth £2,000. When all the land is paid for, which will be in about a year, they are about as successful a pair of young "gentlemen farmers" as I have heard of. Mr. Lawder had four years' experience of bush life in Australia. Mr. Grant came out at 17.

Called on Mr. Bickerdike, 235, Commissioner Street, relative to weighing of cattle, &c. He is the largest buyer and shipper of cattle in Montreal. He says:—

1. There is no Market Act in Canada. It is go-as-you-please business.

2. He weighs when animals are bought from other shippers, about 25 at a time—according to size of animals—in railway truck.

3. He bought a lot of small store beasts this morning, weighing from 800 to 850 lbs. apiece, at 2½ cents a lb. (real good fat beasts are worth 4 cents a lb.): 360 went to Aberdeen in the "Norse King" on Saturday. At Glasgow they weigh *all*, two at a time.

4. Will weigh at Montreal, and communicate with agent at Glasgow.

5. None weighed at Liverpool or Bristol.

6. Confirms the idea that loss of weight is only in the railway journey, except in the case of very bad weather at sea; 200 lbs. a good average from Calgary to Liverpool.

Messrs. Stinson & Stephens called on me; the former is manager of the North-West Ranch Company. He says that the company have had four dividends in seven years. Says they have been particularly lucky in their breeding mares, 80 per cent. having foals; got last year 219 foals from 310 mares. Has great faith in the ranches, but gave a bad account of many of the young men sent out from England to join them. Has known some small ranches do well, but thinks the Alberta district more suitable to them than south of the Canadian Pacific Railway.

Left Montreal at 8 a.m. for the Eastern Townships. Country round St. Hilaire, St. Hyacinthe, &c., occupied by French. Long, narrow fields; plenty of poor-looking stock in the fields; enormous churches and convents everywhere, and many tidy houses.

Towards Richmond the country became very pretty, with numerous fine rivers and wooded hills. It was principally a grazing country. The farm-houses much occupied by people from Europe, and some very neatly kept. Passed some large copper mines.

Met Mr. Beevor—a Nottinghamshire man—employed on the railway. Saw some good Herefords, and also a few good-looking colts.

At about 12.30 reached Hillhurst, a station near where Mr. Cochrane has his famous farm. His son met me, and drove me to his house, where I received a kind welcome from his family; stayed there for the night. It is needless for me to write about Mr. Cochrane and his farm, stock, &c. His name is known all over Europe as a most successful breeder, and I believe he has obtained for his cattle

as large a price as anyone in Europe. I believe his great fancy at one time was Shorthorns, but at present he breeds black Polled Angus cattle, Herefords, trotting horses, and Yorkshire pigs. His yards, stables, &c., are very complete. In his business at this farm he is principally assisted by his eldest son, leaving his large ranch west to the care of his two younger sons. He farms here about 1,000 acres. His stock consists of 99 black cattle, 76 Herefords, 25 Jerseys, 15 other cattle, 200 sheep, 57 horses, and 15 pigs. He intends sending all the Herefords to the ranch, and keeping black cattle only. I spent a delightful day with Mr. Cochrane and his charming family. His son superintends everything, and at 5 in the morning is up to see the men go to work. Wages, about \$1 a day; monthly, \$15, and board; married men, \$23 a month.

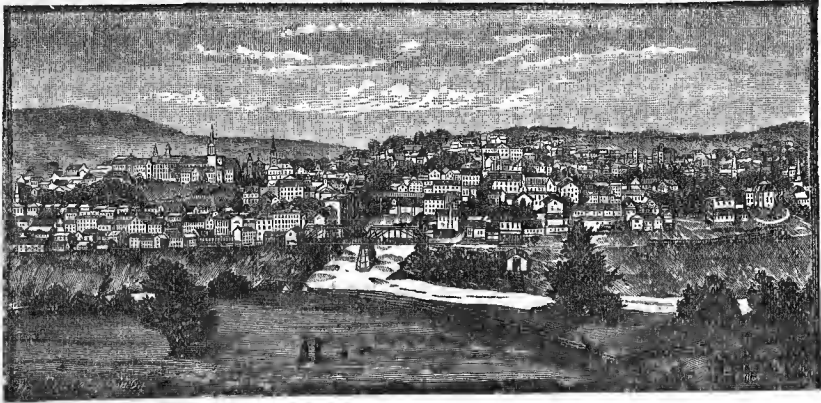
At page 49 I mentioned that from the Cochrane Ranch they had shipped about 1,000 cattle to Liverpool this year. Mr. Cochrane sent his son with them, and took all risks himself. The venture proved very satisfactory. Part of the cattle arrived in first-rate order—in fact, they rather improved on the voyage. They averaged about £17 a head at Liverpool. Young Mr. Cochrane wrote to say he saw some killed, and they “died” well, and the purchaser was well satisfied. Mr. Cochrane had not received an account of the last batch. These cattle were all weighed by car-load at Montreal, but were not weighed at Liverpool; but he considered they were worth 4½ cents a lb. at Montreal. They were all well bred, there being 250 Herefords in one lot. Mr. Cochrane's agents in Liverpool are Pritchard, Moor, & Cruik. Mr. Cochrane confirms what I have before heard—that the loss of 200 lbs. weight in cattle between Calgary and Liverpool takes place on the railway, and not on board ship. Of course no one has had more experience in this matter than Mr. Cochrane, as he has shipped pedigree cattle to and from Europe for the last 30 years, and has always been most successful in the business. Mr. Cochrane was able to give me a printed statement of the ranch, showing a good profit on the working of last year. This year he expects it to be better.

After a delightful visit at Mr. Cochrane's, I left at 6.30 this morning for Quebec. I had meant to stop at Sherbrooke, but the trains were so awkward that I could not do so. I would have driven, but there were 21 degrees of frost this morning, and the roads were dreadfully rough, so I had to give it up. I meant to visit Lennoxville, where 300 young boys and men are educated excellently in a college I had long heard of. At Sherbrooke I should have wished to visit an institution for waifs and strays, managed by the Rev. Canon Thornloe. I heard this highly spoken of.

There are several manufactories at Sherbrooke, a town of 10,000 inhabitants. I had to go on, however, to Richmond, and wait there two hours for the train from Montreal.

I made a good deal of inquiry about farms in this very pretty country, and found that about \$30 an acre would buy a nice cleared one, with good water, good house, and plantation of firewood. This sounds cheaper and better than the prices in Ontario. The country is certainly much prettier, but the winters are longer and more severe than in Ontario.

There is not much agricultural land between Richmond and Point Levi, opposite Quebec, but some grand rivers are passed. The woods were particularly beautiful this morning, every twig being covered with what is called "verglas;" the whole forest shone like diamonds. We arrived at Point Levi about 2.30, and crossed over to Quebec. I drove straight to my dear friends the Prices', at Wolfscfield.



SHERBROOKE, EASTERN TOWNSHIPS.

At 9 this morning I embarked on board the Allan steamship "Parisian," after a delightful and most interesting trip of two months and seven days in the Dominion; and, after a prosperous voyage in that most comfortable ship, arrived at Liverpool on Saturday, the 22nd November.

### CONCLUSION.

I have been frequently asked on my journey what I think of Canada. I reply that it is difficult in ten weeks to give a decided opinion on a country larger than that from the Rock of Gibraltar to the northern part of Russia. The delegates, however, have had exceptional opportunities of seeing the resources, &c., of the country, having covered 10,000 miles of ground, exclusive of our sea voyage.

I have no hesitation myself in saying that the Dominion of Canada is a most favourable country for emigrants of certain classes. It must remain with the emigrant himself to choose where to settle. For this reason one should hesitate to give advice; but were I to do so, it would be on the following lines:—

1. A man with a certain amount of capital could buy a nice farm, with good house and cleared land, at about \$30 (£6) an acre, in the Eastern Townships, and many parts of Quebec and Ontario. By doing so, he would avoid the hardships of Manitoba and the North-West; he

would be in the midst of comparative comfort and society, and within easy reach of markets, schools, &c.

2. A small farmer or labouring man, with one or two boys ranging from 12 to 16, and girls of the same stamp, could find occupation, and be sure of a competency hereafter, wherever he went; but he would perhaps have a better opening in Manitoba and the North-West. The work would be severe, particularly for the parents; but there is no reason why the children of such persons should not rise to the highest positions in the province. In fact, this has been the origin of many of the most prominent men in the State. The Government offers especial facilities to such people, and there are millions of acres of good prairie land waiting for good men to occupy them.

3. The above remarks equally apply to young unmarried men of the same class.

4. For mechanics or market gardeners I would recommend British Columbia, where wages are very high, and the climate admirably suited to gardening, as would appear by my Report.

5. For sons of professional men, officers of the Army, &c., it is more difficult to speak. They are a numerous class in the North-West; but neither I nor my fellow-delegates are able to speak very hopefully of their prospects. Their life is a hard one; and I could not find many who were more than "stopping." There are, of course, many exceptions; but I think a great many were little more than "remittance farmers," and several might be called farmers who farmed with a "scatter-gun and a snell-dog." Very few have received a training to suit them for the Jack-of-all-trades work of a Western farm. There are many who do their best; but all their education at our public schools goes for naught when on a farm in this country. Many of them, in consequence, seem almost to lose heart, and live worse than many labourers would do in England. Still, I am bound to say that, even among this class, I never heard any grumbling; and numbers told me that they infinitely preferred this life to that of a clerk or other sedentary occupation in Europe. There seems a charm about the independent life of the West that suits our youth. The question is, How will they be in their old age?\*

6. It appeared to me that the ranch life is much more suited to a gentleman brought up to the pleasures of British country life. In this case there is constant excitement—riding after horses and cattle, with a hunt occasionally after wolves and cayotes—but then capital is wanted; for it appeared to me that ranching, except on a large scale,

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\* In qualification of the above passage in my report on the prospects of young "gentlemen" in Canada, I am happy to give the names of two most trustworthy gentlemen who came home with me in the "Parisian." General Grant has a son settled near Griswold, Manitoba. According to the General, his son and his partner, Mr. Lawder, are doing particularly well. Mr. W. H. Porritt has four sons, all married, living on their sections near Holland, in South Manitoba. Mr. Porritt speaks most hopefully of their prospects. He knows the country well, having taken up a section eight years ago. He sees an immense advance in Manitoba during that time. I believe none of the above young men were educated at our large public schools.—F. A. F.

is seldom remunerative. For men who want a few years' discipline and rough life, I can fancy nothing better than the work and freedom and air of a ranch near the Rocky Mountains.

7. I wish I could speak of the Maritime Provinces of Canada, which, I believe, have charms of their own. I, unfortunately, was not able to visit them.

There is one element in Canada which ought not to be lost sight of by an emigrant to the West, viz., the advantages of the Dominion over the United States. It is almost impossible to take up an American paper without reading in it some startling murder perpetrated in the Western States. The shooting by judges, colonels, &c., of one another seems of daily occurrence; and little punishment seems to follow, except occasionally by Judge Lynch. Even in Chicago, revolvers, I was told, were worn by peaceful citizens; whereas in Canada all is order, even in the wildest parts. This is no doubt greatly due to that fine force, the North-West Mounted Police.

I may mention that I was in no village where Sunday was not as well kept as, or perhaps better than, it is in England. I never attended a meal at a storekeeper's, public dinner, or settler's where grace was not said before sitting down; and everywhere the most enthusiastic loyalty was shown. I think it difficult to find any country where there is less rowdyism and drunkenness than in Canada. I don't mean to say that there is not a good deal of whisky-drinking at bars. There is no doubt far too much of it, and it is most injurious to many men; but I should say that, taking them as a whole, the population of the Dominion of Canada is decidedly an abstemious one.

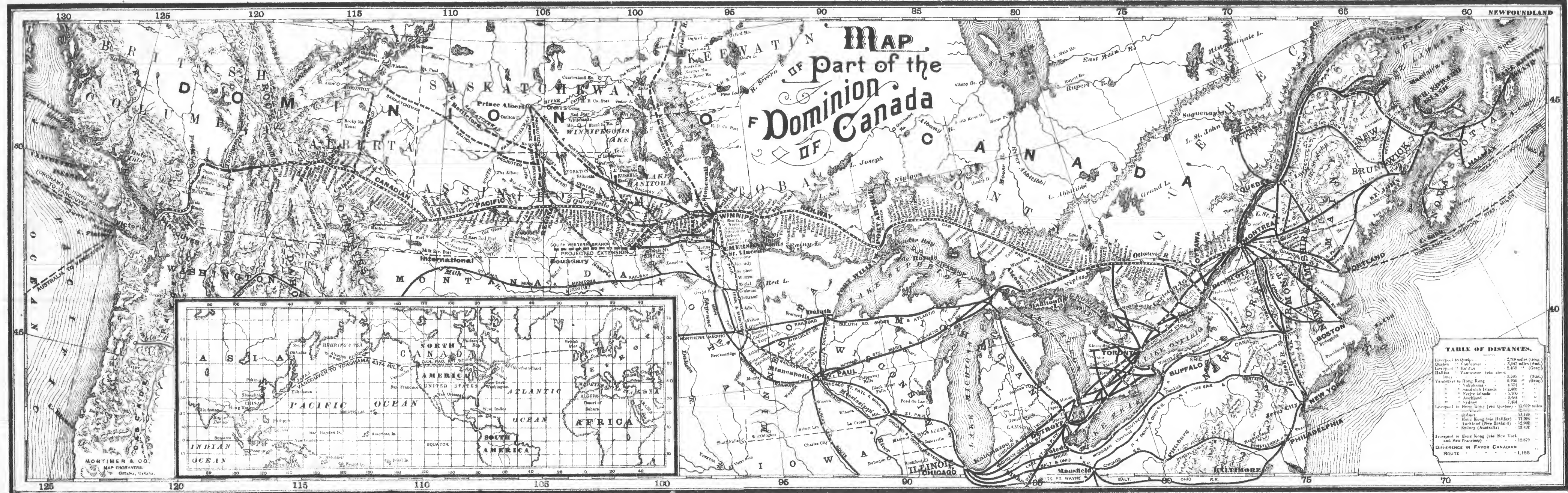
I can only conclude by saying that the emigrant from the old country will find, if he goes to Canada, a most kind-hearted and hospitable people, ever ready to help a new hand. For myself, I can only say that, from high to low, from one end of the country to the other, I was received with most unbounded kindness and hospitality, and my visit was indeed made a real pleasure to me during the whole time I was in the country.

FRANCIS FANE.

FULBECK, December, 1890.

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| TABLE OF DISTANCES.                                     |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| Liverpool to Quebec                                     | 2,716 miles (Grog.)  |
| Quebec to Vancouver                                     | 2,747 miles (Grog.)  |
| Liverpool to Halifax                                    | 2,403 " (Grog.)      |
| Halifax to Vancouver (via short line)                   | 2,505 " (Stat.)      |
| Vancouver to Hong Kong                                  | 6,506 " (Grog.)      |
| " Yokohama  | 4,551 " (Grog.)      |
| " Sandwich Islands                                      | 2,400 " (Grog.)      |
| " Fijee Islands   | 2,110 " (Grog.)      |
| " Auckland  | 6,848 " (Grog.)      |
| " Sydney  | 7,854 " (Grog.)      |
| Liverpool to Hong Kong (via Quebec)                     | 11,509 miles (Grog.) |
| " Sydney  | 11,169 " (Grog.)     |
| " Hong Kong (via Halifax)                               | 11,264 " (Grog.)     |
| " Auckland (New Zealand)                                | 12,992 " (Grog.)     |
| " Sydney (Australia)                                    | 13,476 " (Grog.)     |
| Liverpool to Hong Kong (via New York and San Francisco) | 12,879 " (Grog.)     |
| Difference in Favor Canadian Route                      | 1,168 " (Grog.)      |





## THE VISIT OF THE TENANT-FARMER DELEGATES

### IMPORTANT NOTICE.

CANADIAN IMMIGRATION ARRANGEMENTS.—In addition to the free grant of 160 acres of fertile land offered by the Canadian Government to any male adult of the age of 18 years and over in Manitoba and the North-West Territories, and to the land that may be obtained at a moderate price in British Columbia, the Minister of Agriculture is now authorised to offer, until further notice, the following bonuses to settlers from the United Kingdom taking up such land within six months of their arrival in the country:—Fifteen dollars (£3 1s. 8d.) to the head of a family, seven dollars fifty cents (£1 10s. 10d.) for the wife and each adult member of the family over twelve years of age, and a further sum of seven dollars fifty cents (£1 10s. 10d.) to any adult member of the family over 18 years taking up land. Forms of application for the bonuses, without which no payments will be made, may be obtained, when passage tickets are issued, from any authorised Agent of the Canadian Steamship Lines in Great Britain and Ireland. Persons desiring further information, and pamphlets issued by the Government (which are sent post free) descriptive of the trade, industries, and agricultural resources of the different provinces of Canada, are requested to communicate with the High Commissioner for Canada, 17, Victoria Street, London, S.W., or with any of the following Canadian Government Agents:—Mr. John Dyke, 15, Water Street, Liverpool; Mr. Thomas Grabame, 40, St. Enoch Square, Glasgow; Mr. John W. Down, Bath Bridge, Bristol; Mr. T. Connolly, Northumberland House, Dublin; Mr. H. Merrick, Victoria Chambers, Victoria Street, Belfast.

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Published by authority of the Government of Canada  
(Department of Agriculture).

1891.

I.—B

THE VISIT OF THE TENANT-FARMER DELEGATES  
TO CANADA IN 1890.

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THE REPORTS OF  
Mr. W. EDWARDS, Ruthin, Wales;  
Mr. G. HUTCHINSON, Brougham Castle, Penrith;  
Mr. WM. SCOTSON, Rose Lane, Mossley Hill, near Liverpool;  
And Mr. J. T. WOOD, The Court, Halewood, near Liverpool,  
ON  
The Agricultural Resources of Canada:—  
Prince Edward Island; Nova Scotia; New Brunswick;  
Quebec; Ontario; Manitoba;  
North-West Territories; and British Columbia.

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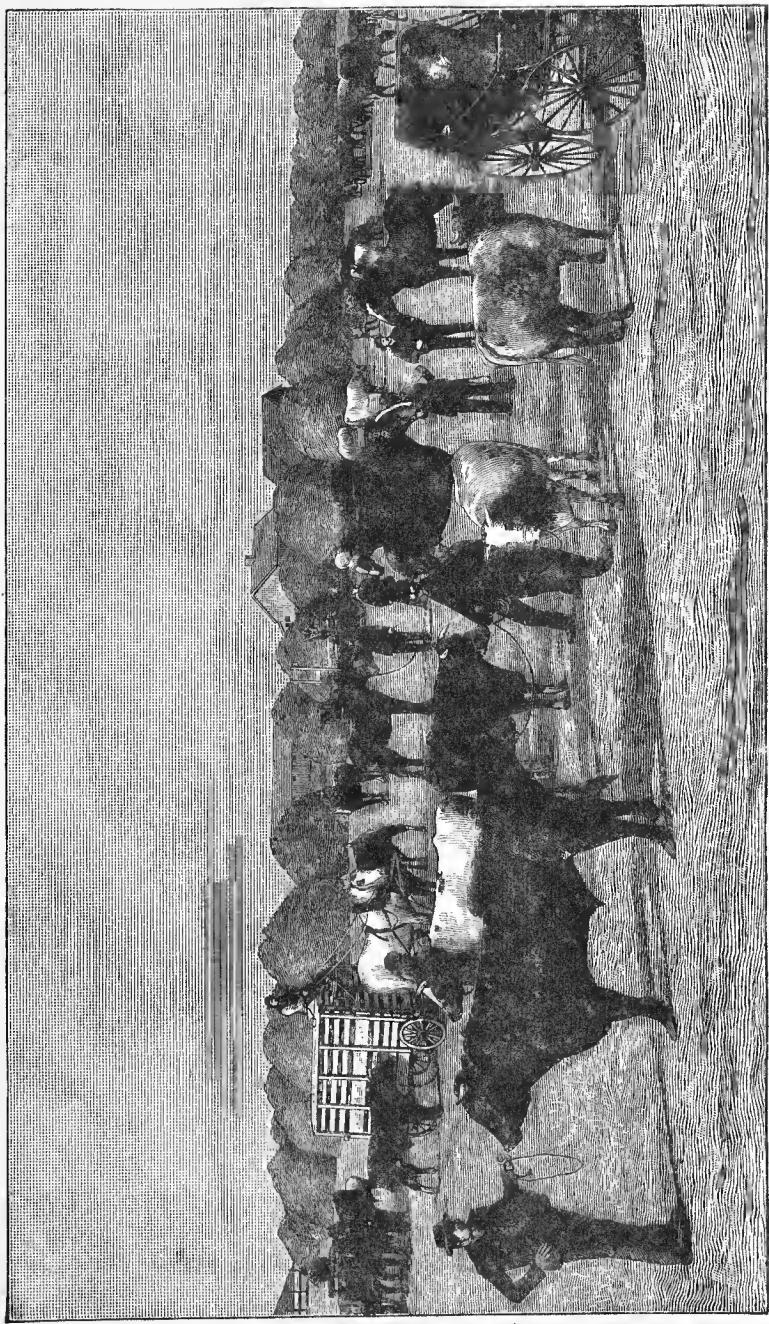
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FARM SCENE IN MANITOBA—THE BERESFORD STOCK FARM.

## PREFACE.

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IN August last the High Commissioner for Canada, by direction of the Minister of Agriculture, invited the following gentlemen, who are all connected with the agricultural industry in the different parts of the United Kingdom in which they reside, to visit the Dominion of Canada, to report upon its agricultural resources, and the advantages the country offers for the settlement of farmers and farm labourers, and the other classes for which there is a demand:—Mr. George Brown, Watten Mains, Caithness, Scotland; Mr. Arthur Daniel, 172, Dereham Road, Norwich, Norfolk; Mr. Wm. Edwards, Ruthin, Wales; Colonel Francis Fane, Fulbeck Hall, Grantham, Lincolnshire; Mr. G. Hutchinson, Brougham Castle, Penrith, Cumberland; Mr. E. R. Murphy, The Kerries, Tralee, Ireland; Mr. Robert Pitt, Crickett Court, Ilminster, Somerset; Mr. Wm. Scotson, Rose Lane, Mossley Hill, near Liverpool, Lancashire; Mr. H. Simmons, Bearwood Farm, Wokingham, Berkshire; Mr. John Speir, Newton Farm, Newton, Glasgow, Scotland; Major Stevenson, Knockbrack, Goshaden, Londonderry, Ireland; Mr. J. T. Wood, The Court, Halewood, near Liverpool, Lancashire.

The reports, if published together, would make rather a bulky volume, and it has been decided, therefore, to divide them into four parts, as under:—

Part I. will contain the reports of Messrs. Edwards, Hutchinson, Scotson, and Wood;

Part II., the reports of Messrs. Daniel, Fane, Pitt, and Simmons;

Part III., the reports of Messrs. Brown and Speir, from Scotland; and

Part IV., Messrs. Murphy and Stevenson, from Ireland.

Any or all of these volumes may be obtained, post free, by persons desiring to peruse them, on application to Sir Charles Tupper, Bart., G.C.M.G., C.B., High Commissioner for Canada, 17, Victoria Street, London, S.W.; or to any of the agents of the Canadian Government in the United Kingdom, whose names and addresses are as follows:—Mr. John Dyke, 15, Water Street, Liverpool; Mr. Thomas Grahame, 40, St. Enoch Square, Glasgow; Mr. John W. Down, Bath Bridge, Bristol; Mr. H. Merrick, Victoria Chambers, Victoria Street, Belfast; Mr. T. Connolly, Northumberland House, Dublin. Copies may also be obtained from the steamship agents, who are to be found in every village.

In addition to these reports, an official handbook of information is issued by the Dominion Government, and approved by the Imperial Government, which may also be procured, post free, on application to any of the Government agencies. It contains particulars of a statistical and general nature about the country, its resources and trade; the classes for which there is a demand in the Dominion, and which are confidently invited to settle in the country; the prices of provisions and other necessities; the rates of wages that are paid; and a more detailed description of the various provinces than can be given in the space at the disposal of the Tenant Farmers' Delegation. It is regretted that the delegates, except those from Ireland, were not able, owing to the limited time at their disposal, to pay a visit to the Maritime Provinces; but the pamphlet mentioned above, and others that are issued, supply full information in regard to those parts of the Dominion.

The agents of the Government will be glad to supply any information that may be desired as to the trade, industries, and varied resources of the Dominion; and persons contemplating settlement in Canada are advised, as a preliminary step, to place themselves in communication with the nearest Government agent.

In Canada the Government has agents at the principal points throughout the country. The following is a list:—

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| QUEBEC .....        | Mr. L. STAFFORD, Louise Embankment and Point Levis, Quebec.           |
| TORONTO .....       | Mr. J. A. DONALDSON, Strachan Avenue, Toronto, Ontario.               |
| OTTAWA .....        | Mr. W. J. WILLS, Wellington Street, Ottawa, Ontario.                  |
| MONTREAL .....      | Mr. J. J. DALEY, Commissioner's Street, Montreal, Province of Quebec. |
| SHERBROOKE .....    | Mr. HENRY A. ELKINS, Sherbrooke, Province of Quebec.                  |
| KINGSTON .....      | Mr. R. MACPHERSON, William Street, Kingston, Ontario.                 |
| HAMILTON .....      | Mr. JOHN SMITH, Great Western Ry. Station, Hamilton, Ont.             |
| LONDON .....        | Mr. A. G. SMYTH, London, Ontario.                                     |
| HALIFAX.....        | Mr. E. M. CLAY, Halifax, Nova Scotia.                                 |
| ST. JOHN .....      | Mr. S. GARDNER, St. John, New Brunswick.                              |
| WINNIPEG .....      | Mr. THOMAS BENNETT, Winnipeg, Manitoba.                               |
| .....               | Mr. J. E. TETU, St. Boniface, Manitoba.                               |
| BRANDON .....       | Mr. A. J. BAKER, Office at the Railway Station.                       |
| REGINA .....        | Mr. J. T. STEMSHORN.  |
| CALGARY.....        | Mr. F. Z. C. MIQUELON.  |
| PORT ARTHUR .....   | Mr. J. M. MCGOVERN.   |
| VICTORIA, B.C.....  | Mr. JOHN JESSOP.  |
| VANCOUVER, B.C..... | Mr. MORRISON SUTHERLAND.  |

These officers will afford the fullest advice and protection. They should be immediately applied to on arrival. All complaints should be addressed to them. They will also furnish information as to lands

open for settlement in their respective provinces and districts, farms for sale, demand for employment, rates of wages, routes of travel, distances, expenses of conveyance, and on all other matters of interest to settlers, and will receive and forward letters and remittances for settlers, &c.

The following are the land regulations prevailing in the different provinces of the Dominion :—

*Prince Edward Island.*—The available uncultivated and vacant Government land is estimated at about 45,000 acres. These consist of forest lands of medium quality, the very best having, of course, been taken up by the tenants in the first instance, and their price averages about one dollar per acre. Parties desiring to settle upon them are allowed ten years to pay for their holdings, the purchase-money to bear interest at 5 per cent., and to be payable in ten annual instalments.

*Nova Scotia.*—There are now in Nova Scotia about two millions of acres of ungranted Government lands, a considerable quantity of which is barren and almost totally unfit for cultivation; but there is some land in blocks of from 200 to 500 acres of really valuable land, and some of it the best in the province, and quite accessible, being very near present settlements. The price of Crown lands is \$40 (£8 sterling) per 100 acres.

*New Brunswick.*—Crown lands may be acquired as follows :—(1.) Free grants of 100 acres, by settlers over 18 years of age, on the condition of improving the land to the extent of £4 in three months; building a house 16 ft. by 20 ft., and cultivating two acres within one year; and continuous residence and cultivation of 10 acres within three years. (2.) One hundred acres are given to any settler over 18 years of age who pays £4 in cash, or does work on the public roads, &c., equal to £2 per annum for three years. Within two years a house 16 ft. by 20 ft. must be built, and 2 acres of land cleared. Continuous residence for three years from date of entry, and 10 acres cultivated in that time, is also required. (3.) Single applications may be made for not more than 200 acres of Crown lands without conditions of settlement. These are put up to public auction at an upset price of 4s. 2d. per acre; purchase-money to be paid at once; cost of survey to be paid by purchaser.

*Quebec.*—Lands purchased from the Government are to be paid for in the following manner :—One-fifth of the purchase-money is required to be paid the day of the sale, and the remainder in four equal yearly instalments, bearing interest at 6 per cent. The price at which the lands are sold is from 20 cents to 60 cents per acre (15d. to 2s. 5½d. stg.). The purchaser is required to take possession of the land sold within six months of the date of the sale, and to occupy it within two years. He must clear, in the course of ten years, ten acres for every hundred held by him, and erect a habitable house of the dimensions of at least 16 ft. by 20 ft. The letters patent are issued free of charge. The parts of the Province of Quebec now inviting colonisation are the Lake St. John district; the valleys of the Saguenay, St. Maurice, and the Ottawa Rivers; the Eastern Townships; the Lower St. Lawrence; and Gaspé.

*Ontario.*—Any head of a family, whether male or female, having children under 18 years of age, can obtain a grant of 200 acres; and a single man over 18 years of age, or a married man having no children under 18 residing with him,



can obtain a grant of 100 acres. This land is mostly covered with forest, and is situate in the northern and north-western parts of the province. Such a person may also purchase an additional 100 acres at 50 cents per acre, cash. The settlement duties are—to have 15 acres on each grant cleared and under crop at the end of the first five years, of which at least 2 acres are to be cleared annually; to build a habitable house, at least 16 feet by 20 feet in size; and to reside on the land at least six months in each year. In the Rainy River district, to the west of Lake Superior, consisting of well-watered nucleated land, free grants are made of 160 acres to a head of a family having children under 18 years of age residing with him (or her); and 120 acres to a single man over 18, or to a married man not having children under 18 residing with him; each person obtaining a free grant to have the privilege of purchasing 40 acres additional, at the rate of one dollar per acre, payable in four annual instalments.

*Manitoba and North-West Territories.*—Free grants of one quarter-section (160 acres) of surveyed agricultural land may be obtained by any person who is the sole head of a family, or by any male who has attained the age of 18 years, on application to the local agent of Dominion lands, and on payment of an office fee of \$10. At the time of making entry the homesteader must declare under which of the three following provisions he elects to hold his land, and on making application for patent must prove that he has fulfilled the conditions named therein:—

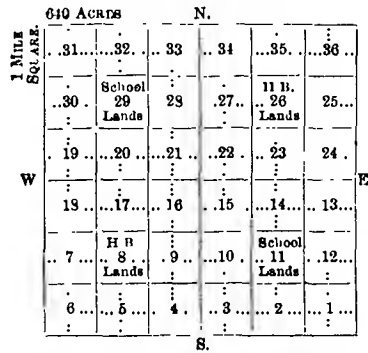
1. By making entry and within six months thereafter erecting a habitable house and commencing actual residence upon the land, and continuing to reside upon it for at least six months in each year for the three next succeeding years, and doing reasonable cultivation duties during that period.
2. By making entry for the land, cultivating it for three successive years, so that at the end of that period not less than 40 acres be under cultivation; residing for at least six months in each year during that time within a radius of two miles of the homestead; and erecting a house upon the homestead and residing in it for three months next preceding the application for patent.
3. By making entry, and within six months from the date thereof commencing the cultivation of the homestead, breaking and preparing for crop within the first year not less than five acres; cropping the said five acres, and breaking and preparing for crop not less than 10 acres in addition, and erecting a habitable house thereon before the expiration of the second year, and thereafter residing therein and cultivating the land for at least six months of each of the three years next prior to the date of the application for patent.

Persons making entry for homesteads on or after September 1st in any year are allowed until June 1st following to perfect their entries by going into actual residence. The only charge for a homestead of 160 acres is the entrance fee of \$10. In certain cases forfeited pre-emptions and cancelled homesteads are available for homesteads, but slightly additional fees are demanded from the settlers in each case, and when abandoned pre-emptions are taken up they are required to perform specified conditions of settlement. Full information can be obtained from the local agents. In the event of a homesteader desiring to secure his patent within a shorter period than the three or five years, as the case may be, he will be permitted to purchase his homestead at the Government price at the time, on furnishing proof that he has resided on the land for at least 12 months subsequent to date of entry, and has cultivated 30 acres thereof.

The following diagram shows the manner in which the country is surveyed. It represents a township—that is, a tract of land six miles square, containing

36 sections of one mile square each. These sections are subdivided into quarter-sections of 160 acres each.

TOWNSHIP DIAGRAM.



The right of pre-emption has ceased to exist, having been altogether discontinued after 1st January, 1890.

Information respecting timber, mineral, coal, grazing and hay lands, may be obtained from any of the land agents. Homesteaders in the first year of settlement are entitled to free permits to cut a specified quantity of timber for their own use only, upon payment of an office fee of 25 cents.

It must be distinctly understood that the land regulations are subject to variation from time to time. Settlers should take care to obtain from the land agent, when making their entry, an explanation of the actual regulations in force at that time, and the clause of the Act under which the entry is made endorsed upon the receipt, so that no question or difficulty may then or thereafter arise.

*List of Dominion Land Agents in Manitoba and North-West Territories.*

| Name of Agent.      | Name of District.       | Agency.         | Post Office Address of Agent. |
|---------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| A. H. Whitcher ...  | Winnipeg ...            | Dominion Lands. | Winnipeg, Manitoba.           |
| W. M. Hilliard ...  | Little Saskatchewan ... |                 | Minnedosa, "                  |
| W. G. Pentland ...  | Birtle ...              |                 | Birtle, "                     |
| W. H. Hiam ...      | Souris ...              |                 | Brandon, "                    |
| John Flesher ...    | Turtle Mountain ...     |                 | Deloraine, "                  |
| W. H. Stevenson...  | Qu'Appelle ...          |                 | Regina, Assiniboia, N.W.T.    |
| John McTaggart ...  | Prince Albert ...       |                 | Pr. Albert, Saskatchewan, "   |
| C. E. Phipps ...    | Coteau ...              |                 | Cannington, Assiniboia, "     |
| E. Brokovski ...    | Battleford ...          |                 | Battleford, Saskatchewan, "   |
| Amos Rowe ...       | Calgary ...             |                 | Calgary, Alberta, "           |
| P. V. Gauvreau ...  | Edmonton ...            |                 | Edmonton, "                   |
| E. G. Kirby ...     | Lethbridge ...          |                 | Lethbridge, "                 |
| T. B. Ferguson ...  | Tonawood ...            |                 | Salcoats, Assiniboia, "       |
| E. F. Stephenson... | Winnipeg ...            | Crown Timber.   | Winnipeg, Manitoba.           |
| Thos. Anderson ...  | Edmonton ...            |                 | Edmonton, Alberta, N.W.T.     |
| C. L. Gouin ...     | Calgary ...             |                 | Calgary, Alberta, "           |
| John McTaggart ...  | Prince Albert ...       |                 | Pr. Albert, Saskatchewan, "   |

*British Columbia.*—In this province any British subject who is the head of a family, a widow, or a single man over 18 years, may, by paying a fee of 8s. 4d., acquire the right, from the Provincial Government, to not more than 320 acres of Crown lands north and east of the Cascades, and 160 acres elsewhere. The price is 4s. 2d. an acre, payable by four annual instalments. The conditions are—(1) personal residence of the settler, or his family or agent; (2) improvements to be made of the value of 10s. 6d. an acre. Lands from 160 to 640 acres may also be bought at 10s. 6d. an acre, without conditions of residence or improvements.

The Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Syndicate have not yet fully arranged the terms upon which they will dispose of their unoccupied lands. They own about 1,500,000 acres, but they are much broken up by rock and mountains.

The land belonging to the Dominion Government begins near the sea-board, runs through the New Westminster district, and up the Fraser valley to Lytton; thence it runs up the Thompson River valley, past Kamloops and through Eagle Pass, across the northern part of Kootenay district to the eastern frontier of British Columbia. The country is laid out in townships in the same way as in Manitoba and the North-West Territories. The quarter-sections may be purchased at a price now fixed at \$2.50 (10s.) per acre, subject to change by Order in Council. They may be "homesteaded" by settlers who intend to reside on them. A registration fee of \$10 (£2) is charged at the time of application. Six months is allowed in which to take possession, and at the end of three years, on proof of residence and cultivation, he acquires a patent on payment of \$1 per acre for the land. If preferred, the homesteader can hold his land for the first two years after entry by cultivating from eight to fifteen acres (the former if the land is timbered, and the latter if it is not so encumbered). During the three years next thereafter he must reside upon it as well as cultivate it. Homestead grants of 160 acres (price \$1 per acre) can also be obtained for the culture of fruit. In case of illness, or of necessary absence from the homestead during the three years, additional time will be granted to the settler to conform to the Government regulations. These conditions apply to agricultural lands. The Dominion Land Agent for British Columbia is Mr. H. B. W. Aikman, New Westminster.

In addition to the free-grant lands available in Manitoba and the North-West Territories, several companies have large blocks of land which they offer for disposal at reasonable rates, from \$2.50 up to \$10 per acre. Among others, the Canadian Pacific Railway Company (Land Commissioner, Mr. L. A. Hamilton, Winnipeg) has about 14 millions of acres; and the Hudson Bay Company (Land Commissioner, Mr. Lawson, Winnipeg) has also a considerable area. The same remark applies to the Canada North-West Land Company (Land Commissioner, Mr. W. B. Scarth, M.P., Winnipeg) and the Manitoba and North-Western Railway Company (Land Commissioner, Mr. A. F. Eden, Winnipeg); and there are several other companies. The Alberta Coal and Railway Company also own nearly a million acres of land in the District of Alberta. The prices of these lands vary according to position, but in most cases the terms of purchase are easy, and arranged in annual instalments, spread over a number of years.

In all the provinces improved farms may be purchased at reasonable prices—that is, farms on which buildings have been erected and a portion of the land cultivated. The following are the average prices in the different provinces, the prices being regulated by the position of the farms, the nature and extent of the buildings, and contiguity to towns and railways:—Prince Edward Island, from £4 to £7 per acre; Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Quebec, from £2 to £10; Ontario, from £2 to £20; Manitoba and the North-West Territories, from £1 to £10; and British Columbia, from £2 to £15. These farms become vacant for the reasons which are explained with accuracy in many of the accompanying reports. They are most suitable for persons possessed of some means, who desire more of the social surroundings than can be obtained in those parts of the various provinces in which Government lands are still available for occupation and settlement.

Canada has already assumed an important position as an agricultural country, and the value of its exports of such products alone now nearly reaches \$40,000,000 annually, in addition to the immense quantity required for home consumption. The principal items of farm and dairy produce exported in 1889—the latest returns available—were: Horned cattle, \$5,708,126; horses, \$2,170,722; sheep, \$1,263,125; butter, \$331,958; cheese, \$8,915,684; eggs, \$1,851,503; flour, \$646,063; green fruit, \$1,604,203; barley, \$6,464,589; pease, \$1,449,417; wheat, \$471,121; potatoes, \$287,763. In many respects 1889 was not a favourable year, and if other years were taken, the exports, particularly of food-stuffs, would be considerably larger than those given above. Besides the articles specially enumerated, a considerable export trade was done in bacon and hams, beef, lard, mutton, pork, poultry, and other meats, as well as in beans, Indian corn, oats, malt, oatmeal, flour-meal, bran, and tomatoes. The chief importers of Canadian produce at the present time are Great Britain and the United States, but an endeavour is being made, and so far with success, to extend the trade with the mother country, and to open up new markets in other parts of the world. The products of the fisheries, the mines, and the forests are also exported to a large annual value; and the manufacturing industry is a most important and increasing one, especially in the eastern provinces, and includes almost every article that can be mentioned.

In many of the reports mention is made of the money system, and the weights and measures, obtaining in the Dominion. The dollar, which is, roughly speaking, of the value of 4s. 2d., contains 100 cents, equal to  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. each. The following are the coins in use:—Copper, 1 cent;

silver, 5 cents, 10 cents, 25 cents, and 50 cents. Paper money is also much in use, and is redeemable at any time at its par value. The following are the standard weights of a bushel of the various products:—Wheat, 60 lbs.; Indian corn, 56 lbs.; rye, 56 lbs.; pease, 60 lbs.; barley (six-rowed), 48 lbs.; malt, 36 lbs.; oats, 34 lbs.; beans, 60 lbs.; potatoes and other vegetables, 60 lbs. The hundredweight and ton are fixed by statute at 100 lbs. and 2,000 lbs. respectively.

It is not necessary to extend this preface, or to summarise the various reports; they must be allowed to speak for themselves. They deal with Canada as it was seen by practical agriculturists, and refer not only to its advantages, but to its disadvantages, for no country is without the latter in some shape or form. It may safely be said, however, that Canada has fewer drawbacks than many other parts of the world; and this is borne out by the favourable opinions that are generally expressed by the delegation. Those who read the reports of the farmers who visited Canada in 1879 and 1880, will realise that immense progress has been made since that time—when the vast region west of Winnipeg was only accessible by railway for a short distance, and direct communication with Eastern Canada, through British territory, was not complete.

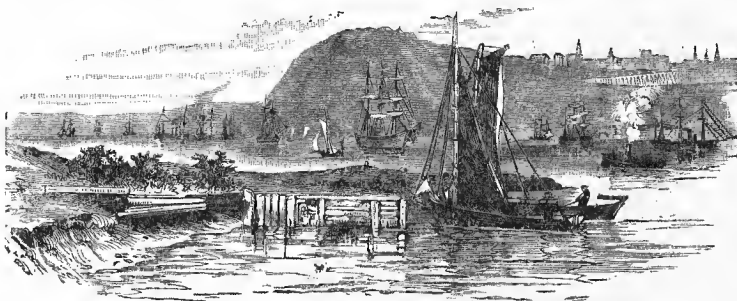
The Canadian Government, in inviting the delegation, wished to place before the public, information of a reliable and independent character as to the prospects the Dominion offers for the settlement of persons desiring to engage in agricultural pursuits, and it is believed that its efforts will be as much appreciated now as they were ten years ago. In Great Britain and Ireland the area of available land is limited, and there is a large and ever-increasing population; while at the same time Canada has only a population of about 5,000,000, and hundreds of millions of acres of the most fertile land in the world, simply waiting for population to cultivate it, capable of yielding in abundance all the products of a temperate climate for the good of mankind. It only remains to be said that any persons, of the classes to whom Canada presents so many opportunities, who decide to remove their homes to the Dominion, will receive a warm welcome in any part of the country, and will at once realise that they are not strangers in a strange land, but among fellow British subjects, with the same language, customs, and loyalty to the Sovereign, that are the characteristics of the old country.

## THE REPORT OF MR. WILLIAM EDWARDS, Ruthin, Wales.

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IN submitting my report upon the Dominion of Canada as a field for settlement, I feel that the undertaking is pregnant with great responsibilities. If its capabilities are in any way over-estimated it may lead some of the most sanguine to expect there a paradise of unmixed pleasure, who as a rule are doomed to disappointment wherever they go. On the other hand, if I fail to realise my position, and under-estimate its vast resources, I may influence the procrastinator to be content with his lot, ending his days in poverty, and possibly bequeathing the same legacy to generations of his descendants. I shall, however, endeavour to deal only with facts and figures, addressing myself more particularly to my own countrymen, with whose wants I am thoroughly conversant, and I hope in entire sympathy with their aspirations.

Sailing from Liverpool on the Allan liner "Circassian" with six other delegates on the 28th of last August, we landed in Quebec on Sunday, September 7th. We had a pleasant voyage, with the exception of one very rough day in mid-ocean, and a moderate breeze for two more days in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, which, however, abated into a perfect calm as we entered the grand St. Lawrence River, through which flow the waters of the great inland seas that divide Canada from the United States for some hundreds of miles; also of Lake Michigan in the States, on the south of which stands the wonderful city of Chicago.



VIEW OF QUEBEC.

To intending emigrants a short description of the voyage across the Atlantic may be of some interest. There is no doubt but that this has been the cause of detaining many a hard-working farmer on his mountain plot in Wales, instead of seeking his fortune on the rich prairie land of Canada; whereas, had he only ventured out years ago, he would have found the trip enjoyable, as well as, probably, beneficial to his health, and would have been the proud owner of half a section or 320 acres of land, or more, with his children all in prosperous circumstances, and in a fair way to accumulate an independency which

would ensure their enjoyment of life in their declining years, a position rarely to be hoped for in their native land. But it is not too late, there is yet room in Canada for the sons of toil in millions to establish happy homes, with that freedom of action that every independent spirit cannot fail to appreciate. There would have been some excuse for hesitating had the voyage lasted three months, as was the case with one of the Scotch pioneers of Canada, with whom I had a pleasant chat, and who related with pride his experience 50 years ago. After 14 weeks on board a sailing vessel he was wrecked off the coast of Newfoundland, and at last found his way to the neighbourhood of Toronto, where he resides, and with his own axe had to hew his farm out of the forest, and in his declining years is enjoying the fruit of his labours. Now the nine or ten days' sailing is only a pleasure trip, especially on board one of these floating palaces, where the comfort of all is so much studied by the officials in charge of the vessel. The charges also are moderate, and within reach of the poorest working man. Special through rates are quoted for emigrants to Winnipeg and further; beds are hired by the Allan Company to those who do not prefer providing their own; the food is of good quality, well cooked, and supplied regularly three times a day. Many times have I heard the remark: "I would have emigrated long ago, but for these little ones; they would never live to cross the ocean." But my experience is that those are the very people who ought to go. There were on board the "Circassian" 35 or 40 children, varying in age from a few months to 15 years, of whom I took particular notice every day, and found only two of the oldest suffering from sea sickness; all the younger ones seemed to enjoy their holiday, and looked as happy as if they were in their playground at home. Therefore those with young children need not dread the voyage in the least, and on reaching their new homes they would find the eldest of immense value in sowing and harvest time. I saw one sturdy little fellow of ten summers who had loaded 80 acres of wheat, his father pitching. The latter, who five years ago was a gamekeeper in England, now owns 160 acres of land, with a good house and outbuildings.

I find, in perusing my notes, that they are far too voluminous to be of practical use to the intending emigrant; therefore, much as I regret it, hundreds of names and addresses must be left out. I hope those gentlemen who lost days of valuable time in assisting the delegates and driving them across the prairies will deem this a sufficient reason for not acknowledging their valuable services by personal reference in this report, and that one and all will accept my cordial thanks.

I have always been under the impression that the resources of Canada are not known in the principality to any extent, and since my return I find, in conversing even with the best informed, that I was not far wrong. The United States have been for the last 50 years the chief attraction for Welsh emigrants, to many of whom, no doubt, the form of government was the great inducement. The political tendencies of Wales being pretty well known, I do not think a passing reference here is out of place—in fact, a comparison between the condition of Wales and that of Canada in that respect is most essential in my opinion. In Canada, as in the States, a man enjoys manhood

suffrage, and if he aspires to political honour, and possesses the ability, the course is open for him, and he is paid for his trouble. He can enter the House of Assembly in his own province, and there is generally a minister of agriculture, as a member of the Government, to look after the interests of the farmers.

The Minister of Agriculture of the Dominion, the Honourable John Carling, acts for the whole of Canada, and sits in the Federal Parliament at Ottawa, and to him the farmer delegates are deeply indebted; and his geniality contrasts favourably with some of our far less brilliant official satellites. In my tour through Canada I met more than one practical farmer who was a member of Parliament, and who could ride his own sulky-plough or self-binder; and I have no doubt that the practical knowledge of such men is invaluable in the Councils of the nation. I should like to ask how many such men we can boast of in our National Council. Wales may, perhaps, be proud of being able to return one farmer's son to Parliament, but among 670 Members he is almost powerless to render any assistance to his struggling countrymen. In Canada I find that agriculture and commerce move forward together, their representatives in the Provincial and Dominion Parliaments are so equally balanced that one element cannot predominate, and, if I am not mistaken, the situation is not likely to change in the immediate future.



PLOUGHING.

The Agricultural College and experimental farm at Guelph, Ontario, under the able guidance of scientific and practical men, where the young farmers from all parts of the world are taught the practice and science of agriculture, testifies to the foresight of Canadians, and will exercise immense influence upon the future agricultural prosperity of this almost endless Dominion. This institution deserves more than a passing reference, the advantages to the young men who



attend it are manifold, and the knowledge acquired in the short space of two years is such as to enable them to start at once upon a successful career; and, in whatever part of the earth they may take up their abode, their example will act as a stimulant to their neighbours, and prove of great national value. Applications for admittance from all parts of America, and some from Europe, have compelled the governors to give preference to Canadian students, who are admitted on easy terms, and are paid for any manual labour which they perform, enabling the more industrious to support themselves or to reduce the charge to a nominal sum. As a stimulus to theoretical study they are awarded gold and silver medals. Their studies comprise English literature and political economy, agriculture, arboriculture, horticulture, agricultural and analytical chemistry, geology, meteorology, zoology, botany, veterinary anatomy, practical handling and judging of horses and live stock, dairying, arithmetic, mensuration surveying, book-keeping, and gymnastics. The scope of this report will not enable me to explain the details of any of these studies; but I found during my visit to the college that the axiom "Theory combined with practice" predominated. I may instance here what may surprise many practical men on this side of the Atlantic. A field of Indian corn was planted on the 29th June, in rows 32 inches apart, the average height of stalks being 11 feet on the 15th September, when it was cut green and put in the silo for winter fodder, weighing 22 tons per acre. The greatest attention is paid to selecting and experimenting upon the different breeds of cattle, with a view of importing only those that will prove most profitable to the Canadian farmer; a commencement is also made in the same direction with sheep, which up to three years ago have attracted but little attention. Experiments are carried on with all sorts of grain, roots, clover and grass seeds, vines, and all other trees that may prove of value as shelter or to bear fruit. The students have access to and assist in all these experiments, the different qualities being pointed out, and their usefulness explained. A lecture hall is provided, where all the students are accommodated with seats in an elevated position. The animals are brought before them, and their defects as well as their good points are brought into view and illustrated by the professors—in fact, everything that will be of value practically to the student is brought under his notice. The Dominion Government experimental farms at Ottawa, Brandon, Indian Head, and Agassiz, all of which I inspected, are also doing excellent work for the farmers. To assist in diffusing practical knowledge, farmers' meetings are held in many centres, which the professors attend, to give lectures during the winter months. The time of the year in Canada when mother earth refuses to open her arms for cultivation, gives the farmer a grand opportunity to cultivate his mind and prepare to meet the fierce competition that is daily increasing, and mingled, I fear, with a little jealousy, in the United States. While thus encouraging technical education at considerable expense, the elementary, which is practically free, is not neglected; and wherever a settlement is established in the North-West Territories, where only a dozen children are of school age,

accommodation is provided for them within easy distance, three-fourths of the expense being paid by the Dominion Government. In the other provinces education is under the control of the local governments. I had an opportunity of inspecting five of the public schools at Toronto, where the health, tuition, and general comfort of the children are apparently all that could be desired; but the school boards are not satisfied to stand still if any new ideas can be introduced, and one of their most persevering members came over to England this summer with a view of gaining further information, in order, if possible, to improve their method.

With all these expenses to be borne by a comparatively young community, the intending settler will naturally enquire "Where is the money to come from?" and when told that the rates are merely nominal—about 6d. per acre—probably he will doubt my statement. When I was informed that there were no poor to be supported, no perpetual pensions to be provided for, no sinecure offices to be filled up, that there is only a small military force, and that the expenses of Government are relatively small, I found a part of the explanation. I inquired of the best authority what was being paid to the officials in Canada, and was informed that the Prime Minister of the Dominion received about £1,640 per annum, the Members of the Cabinet about £1,440, and Members of Parliament about £200 per annum and a small allowance for travelling expenses.

The Government, with all their economy, are perfectly honourable, and pay every one who renders the least service to the State. Even the juryman's services are recognised, and he is paid for his time, and his expenses are refunded.

Outside the Province of Quebec, English only is spoken, and an interpreter is rarely called for except in dealing with the Indians, who are treated in Canada with more consideration than they are in the States; but in face of this encouragement they are decreasing in number. Their mode of living not being conducive to health they die young, and in many respects life seems of little or no value to them. They become very excited under the influence of alcohol, but the law is rigorously enforced upon those who infringe it by supplying them with spirits.

With regard to the liquor traffic, local option is adopted in parts of all the provinces, and some of the towns which I visited had no intoxicating drink of any kind, except at private houses and chemists' shops, and a doctor's certificate has to be obtained if it is wanted for medical purposes. In Toronto and other large cities the public-houses are closed from 7 p.m. on Saturday till 7 a.m. on Monday, and in all my travels through Canada I saw only one drunken man on a Sunday. On that day traffic is entirely suspended, no street cars run, and very few cabs or other conveyances are to be seen. Perfect religious liberty and equality prevail in every part of the Dominion. In some parts the Roman Catholics are in the ascendant, in others the Presbyterians, or the several denominations of Nonconformists. In other parts the Episcopalians take the lead, but in some places the factious leaning to High or Low Church services have a very deterrent effect. Every churchman with whom I had the pleasure of conversing shared the

same opinion—i.e., that its ministrations have far greater effect than if it were connected with the State. Tithes are not heard of except in the Province of Quebec, where the Roman Catholic clergy are allowed to collect from their own adherents, but the law does not compel payment by defaulters, therefore it is much the same as any other voluntary contribution, although bearing the—to Welshmen—odious name of tithe.

In addition to many other bugbears that are hurled against Canada with baneful effect is “the climate.” Arriving there at the end of the hottest season, and leaving when winter was setting in, I had no opportunity of judging personally of the two extremes, but the uniform testimony of all, whether Canadian born or not, to whom I put the question, was that, although in winter the thermometer registers many degrees below our coldest days, the atmosphere is so dry that the cold is not felt to the extent that one might imagine. For the first season or two the settler feels more inconvenience from the heat of July and August than the cold of January and February, but when acclimatised he thoroughly enjoys the winter, and endures the summer heat as well as the natives. The seldom occurrence of sunstroke proves that the heat of summer is not unbearable. The two extremes occupying only four months in the most northern part of the Dominion, two-thirds of the year is similar to our own climate, but far drier in winter, which sets in about the beginning of December and ends about the middle of April, when the farmer starts in earnest to put his seed down, and, as a rule, finishes about the end of May. I have seen wheat that was sown in the last week of June, and was being carted when I was there in the last week of September, a splendid sample, and estimated to yield 30 to 32 imperial bushels an acre; but this is not an example to be widely followed. In Canada early sowing means success.

The Province of Ontario, which is the oldest in the Dominion except Quebec and Nova Scotia, has much the same appearance as the British Isles, but lacks the trim aspect of our quickthorn fences, and for a few months travellers are compelled to put up with badly macadamised roads, as the winter frost makes sad havoc of the best managed. The old snake fence is being replaced in many districts by wire; in others the rails are nailed on cedar posts in a straight line, and, although split 40 or more years ago, are fit to stand the exposure another such term. In this province there are many desirable farms on sale owing to various causes. Some are selling to migrate with their families to Manitoba and the North-West territories, some retire with an independency, and others are compelled to leave from a lack of agricultural knowledge, the land refusing to yield a profitable crop without the necessary stimulant. Many of our most scientific and practical farmers would do well here, and could buy the best farms, with excellent homesteads in thorough repair, for £9 to £15 per acre, or less by paying cash. Money is scarce, and the interest would be high. If a mortgage were required, the rate is from 5½ to 7 per cent., according to the amount and time for which it is required. At first the charge appears high, but when

we come to consider that £100 in the hands of a practical man in Canada will go further than £300 in Great Britain, it will be seen that the small capitalist has a much better chance of getting on, and only pays interest equal to 3 per cent. here. If these farms are hired, the rent charged is from 12s. to 18s. per acre, according to the situation, and they can be stocked with a little more than a third of the capital required in Wales. The above amount represents only the tithe and taxes on our land, so that the farmer has practically no rent to pay as compared with ours. Labour is a serious item, if he has all to pay for, and no one ought to venture on an Ontario farm without capital or sons to assist him, and even then he should be prepared to pay for all his stock, besides a third of the purchase money. Fruit farming in some parts of Ontario is very profitable. In the neighbourhood of Oakville, and along the banks of Lake Ontario to the Niagara, there are many hundreds of acres under fruit trees. Vines are planted in rows, supported by wire fencing three or four deep, they yield from four to six tons per acre, in some places a few rows of potatoes or mangolds are grown between the vines. The grapes are large, and some varieties of excellent flavour, these are sold from 2d. to 5d. per lb.; and in the neighbourhood of Grimsby, where there are excellent fruit farms, I tasted wine 13 years old, and some two years old; both had splendid flavour, and would command good prices in this country. Some hundreds of tons of all sorts of fruit from this neighbourhood are shipped to Liverpool, and the greatest attention is paid to the fruit which is most in demand. A new industry is being developed in the "canning," or preserving of all fruits, especially pears, peaches, plums, and other soft fruits that will not keep in transit. I have a list of many farms for sale in Ontario, a copy of which I should be glad to supply to intending purchasers, or would give the names and addresses of real estate agents who sell on commission, generally acting for the vendor.

I deeply regret that I was not able, owing to the limited time at my disposal, to visit the maritime provinces; but, from what I could learn in conversation with gentlemen I had the pleasure of meeting from that part of the Dominion, I have no doubt that many remarks I have made respecting Ontario will apply to them. Improved farms, with portions of the land under crop, with good buildings and fences, can be obtained at very moderate prices, owing either to the owners retiring from business or to their removing to Manitoba and the North-West Territories, in view of the smaller amount required on the prairies to start their growing sons on farms of their own.

My time was too limited to pay a visit to Quebec, consequently I cannot offer an opinion on its resources, but from a passing glance in a railway carriage I imagine that Welshmen would prefer going further west.

The oldest settlements in Manitoba much resemble those of Ontario, and a new settler will find there plenty of hospitable and kind neighbours willing to give assistance in erecting a homestead, or impart any information that will prove of value to the new comer, so that in a few months he feels quite at home among his new friends.

The greater part of this province contains millions of acres of wheat-growing land, varying in depth from 15 inches to 5 feet of black vegetable mould, and will yield eight or ten crops of wheat in succession without rest or manure. The prices at which farms can be bought here varies considerably, from 16s. for the unimproved prairie to £4 for farms partly broken and with good houses and outbuildings for the latter figure. For the hard-working farmers of Wales, with small capital and two or three growing lads, there is a grand opening, with a certainty of success and independency, health and unforeseen accidents permitting. But if any one is willing to sacrifice for 10 or 15 years the home comforts which he has hitherto enjoyed, he may go from 30 to 50 miles into the interior, where he can take up a homestead of 160 acres, paying the Government £2 for the title, and can buy 160 acres more for from 8s. to 10s. per acre, payable over a term of years. His sons can do the same if they exceed 18 years of age.

The Canadian Pacific Railway Company, to whom the Government granted about 20,000,000 acres in aid of that great undertaking of constructing a railway from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean, also has land to dispose of on reasonable terms. This railway is nearly 3,000 miles in length, and winds its way for over 400 miles through the narrow passes of the Rocky and Selkirk Mountains.

The Manitoba and North-Western Railway, which is to go north to the Saskatchewan River, is now complete as far as Saltcoats. This Company offers every inducement to settlers by advancing money, or, at least, its value in the shape of working oxen, cattle, implements of husbandry, provisions, seed, corn, and potatoes, and breaking up of 10 acres ready to receive the seed in spring. If necessary, they will advance money for passage and maintenance on the way to the extent of £40 for each family; they will also build a house of two or more rooms at an outlay of £15 to £25, allowing the settler 15 years or more to repay the amount. Eight per cent. interest is charged for this loan, two years' interest from the 1st of November next after taking up a homestead being added to the capital, allowing the settler 2½ years before he pays any interest. Security is taken in the shape of a mortgage upon the land, and the settler's note of hand is sufficient for any stock or implements he may require. The rate of interest appears to be high, but the farmer has the advantage of buying everything for cash, and if he is persevering he can pay off the bulk, if not the whole, in five or six years; and the Company are prepared to receive any small instalment in reduction of the amount, the interest upon it ceasing from date of payment. At the invitation of this Company, the delegates visited several settlers in and about Saltcoats, and it was very interesting to hear each of them relating his experience in the North-West, all with one exception—the wife of a settler—being perfectly satisfied with their lots. I have the names and addresses of all these, and many more, but am anxious to keep this report within reasonable limits, and the insertion of one would necessitate the filling of several pages. Suffice it to say that I shall be happy to supply the intending emigrant with refer-

ences to all those whom I visited in every district named in my report. Saltcoats seems well adapted for mixed farming. Cattle and horses do well, all sorts of grain and roots can be grown, and butter of the best quality is made in this district. A cheese and butter factory was started last year, but the number of cows in the district was too limited to keep up a regular supply of milk, and an effort is made to distribute more milch cows among the settlers ready for next season. I visited one of the factories near Winnipeg, at which first-class cheese and butter was manufactured. From every point of view I think these institutions have an important future in the North-West territories. At the Barnardo Home at Russell some first-class butter is turned out, proving that the district is well adapted for butter-making. The stock of Shorthorns at Binscarth Farm, which is second to none in England, in the same neighbourhood, would satisfy any critic of its adaptability for grazing purposes.

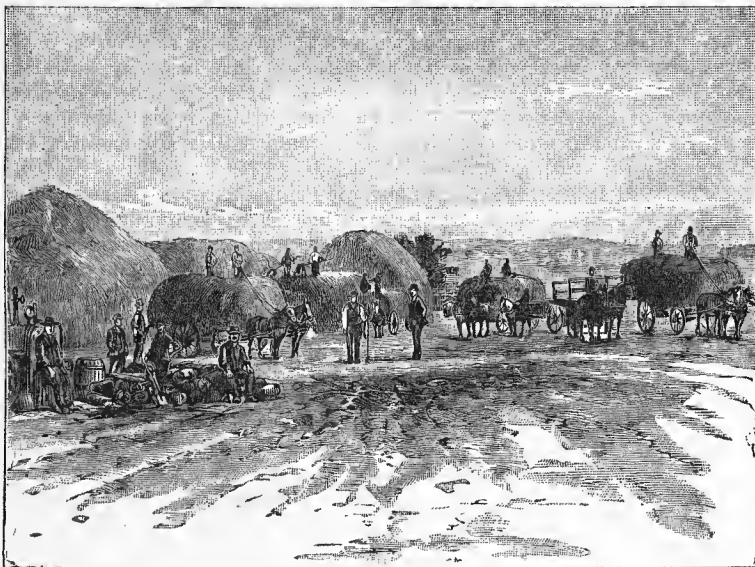
The land in the neighbourhood of Prince Albert and along the Saskatchewan River is of the same nature as Saltcoats, but is more undulating and carrying heavier timber, and is well adapted for barley growing. If sown in time, and the same attention paid to its cultivation as to that of wheat, it will prove the most profitable. This district is also well adapted for grazing; horses do well running out all winter, and are brought in for work in spring full of flesh. Young foals are left out with their dams, and never handled after being branded till they are wanted for work or for sale. There are also some flocks of sheep in this neighbourhood, the favourite cross being between Merino ewes and Cheviot tups. The ewes are bought for 13s. or 14s. each, their progeny yielding per head 5 lbs. to 6 lbs. of very fine wool, which is generally sold unwashed; the price realised this year was 6½d. per lb. The lambs realise 14s. to 18s., and some of the best run up to 25s.

Glenboro', Carman, Wawanesa, and the district about Rapid City, are all similar to Prince Albert and Saltcoats—all good grazing and grain-producing land, and they have convenient railway communication with the main line, and plenty of water; where rivers are too far, good water can be got by digging wells 10 to 30 feet deep.

Grain elevators are erected on the railroads at convenient distances, which are of great value to settlers. The farmers cart their grain in bushel bags and empty them into the hopper, the grain is then passed through the machinery and deposited in large receptacles, perfectly clean and ready for transit. These large grain stores belong to private individuals, corn merchants, or millers, who have practical men in charge sorting or grading and pricing the wheat, which is divided into four different samples—Nos. 1 and 2 hard; Nos. 1 and 2 Northern. Barley and oats have until now been mostly consumed at home, but my opinion is that, at no distant date, barley will be largely cultivated for export. The samples which I inspected at the agricultural shows, experimental farms, and other places where it has been grown with care, will compare favourably with barley grown in the best places of Great Britain, and is certainly better than the average of our malting barley in Wales. The samples of oats also are quite equal to

ours, perfectly hard and full of flour. The price made of last year's oats in September this year, for home consumption, was equal to ours.

The best wheat-growing districts, in my opinion, are in Manitoba, and the same remarks will apply to all of them, commencing with Winnipeg, the capital of Manitoba, situated 1,424 miles from Montreal. The population is 28,000, increased from 100 in 1871.



FARM SCENE, MANITOBA.

Brandon, Portage-la-Prairie, Neepawa, Indian Head, and Plum Creek are all grand wheat-producing districts, and farms can be bought at about the same price in all of them—*i.e.*, from 20s. to 60s. for prairie farms with buildings, and partly broken, except in the immediate neighbourhood of Winnipeg, where it is held by speculators at a higher figure, and a great deal of it requires draining. In crossing the stubbles in all these places I noticed the softness of the earth, the surface yielding under the foot like snow; and in looking at the farm implements I could nowhere discover a roller; the first I saw was not worthy of the name, being evidently home-made, and consisted of a number of rails nailed on to two round ends; it was very light and 9 feet long, but could do no good except smoothing the surface, and would not pay for the trouble. The next, and the only other, was a very good iron cylinder roller, 3 feet in diameter, and in two pieces. I questioned the owner as to the effect of this useful implement; he confirmed the idea I had already formed, that it was not used enough by far, and

that he had a heavier crop of straw, and better grain on the rolled land. This was one of the most practical men I met in the North-West, and his opinion after using the roller for two years is worth recording for the benefit of those who are already settled there, as well as of intending settlers. The use of a heavy roller on such mouldy, soft soil, must be of great benefit. The disintegrating effect of the frost ought to be counteracted, and nothing will effect this but heavy rolling, by which the farmer would be amply compensated for his extra labour—in fact, I believe he could get one-third more corn on his land, of better quality, and it would ripen earlier. Consolidating the surface would also assist in keeping the frost and dampness from being drawn out of the ground too fast, which would prove of great importance in a hot season; and, besides, wheat, like clover, requires a firm grip for the root. I am so convinced upon this subject that I cannot leave it without expressing my opinion, and also a hope that experiments will be carried on in Government farms. My firm belief is that two or three rollings would not be too much, and for the two last very heavy rollers should be used, either by adding some weight to the frame, or by using the cylinder roller that can be filled with water to any weight desired.

The seed distributor, with small spring wheels pressing the ground after the drills, are found to answer well, but the young plant will soon spread its roots to the soft ground on both sides, and until it gets to the undisturbed soil will present for a few days a yellow, sickly appearance, indicating that its progress is much retarded.

Summer frosts are complained of in some districts, but the harm caused to wheat is much exaggerated, no doubt to suit the purpose of the buyer. I was informed by the manager of the great mill in Minneapolis, United States, that the frozen wheat, as they called it, turned out as good flour as the other, but not quite so much to the bushel of wheat. Hailstones in other places do occasional damage, but they are of rare occurrence. I saw only one piece of about 30 acres of wheat damaged in this way.

Leaving Brandon and journeying westward, passing some 22 towns and cities, including some important settlements, such as Moosomin, Wolseley, and Qu'Appelle, we come to Regina, the capital of Assiniboia, where the Member of the Dominion Parliament resides, who accompanied the delegates to Prince Albert. Regina is an important centre, having a population of 2,200, and is increasing very fast; it is the headquarters of the North-West Mounted Police, a force 1,000 strong, which maintains order all over the territory between Manitoba and the Rocky Mountains. The Lieutenant Governor's residence is situated about a mile beyond this station. Between this point and Calgary are 38 stations of more or less importance; the delegates only stopped at Medicine Hat, and inspected the produce brought in for exhibition next day, to which reference will be made in dealing with the agricultural shows. The distance from Regina to Calgary is 483 miles. On each side of the railway at intervals there is some excellent land, but thinly populated; several large ranches, and among them some of the Canadian Agricultural Company's farms (better known as Sir



John Lister Kaye's farms) are to be seen from the railway between these two points—they are ten in number, and contain 10,000 acres each. These have been valuable pioneers, and intending settlers may benefit by their successful, as well as their unsuccessful, experiments. Although ranching in Canada has been successful in the main, the profits realised from the invested capital is not equal to the average of smaller holdings where individual attention to the stock amply compensates the owner. The system adopted in ranching answers well in summer, and if the straw of Manitoba could be utilised as winter fodder and shelter for these large herds instead of being burned, I have little doubt but that the system would suit both corn producers and ranchers, as the latter would suffer less from losses in winter, and the former would benefit by preserving the vegetable matter and other ingredients contained in the straw until the land requires it, which is certain to happen in the next 20 years. I found that some difference of opinion existed among practical men as to the effect of manure after a few crops of corn are taken from the land. One who has adopted mixed farming on the plains of Brandon declared that he got better wheat, ripening sooner, after a dressing of farmyard manure; another, who grows nothing but corn, condemned it as being worse than useless. Both farm in the same neighbourhood, the former utilising his straw and the latter burning it. This gentleman, I think, ought to consult the Ontario farmer.

Calgary, the centre of all the great ranches, and the most thriving town between Brandon and the Rocky Mountains, is nicely situated on the Bow River, and has a population of 3,400. Being surrounded by plenty of good building material, the chief business places are all stone built, and the town has no doubt an important future. Cloth manufacturing has been commenced here, and judging from the quality produced the venture will no doubt prove a success. The samples of barley shown at the agricultural show also commends the district for the cultivation of that valuable cereal, and the exhibits of cattle would have been a credit to a provincial show in any country. There are several important ranches between Calgary and the Rocky Mountains, a distance of about 80 miles, which lack of time prevented the delegates from visiting. Leaving the unbounded prairie behind, the Rockies present an appearance of grandeur that will baffle the most descriptive pen. Having reached an altitude of nearly 3,400 feet at Calgary, and travelling 60 miles further, the line entering the gap shows an ascent of 800 feet in 18 miles. Further on is Banff, noted for its hot sulphur springs, where invalids resort to benefit by bathing in the wonderful waters, which bubble out of the mountain too hot by several degrees for the patient to enter. From Banff to Stephen station, a distance of 43 miles, the railway ascends to the highest point of the Rocky Mountains, 5,296 feet, rising nearly 1,600 feet in 61 miles. The passenger becomes almost bewildered by the magnificent views, the mountain cliffs towering above on both sides, covered by cedar and fir-trees, the torrent below rushing and roaring through narrow passes, presenting nature in its most picturesque garb; but all of a sudden the mind is diverted to the engineering skill that has given

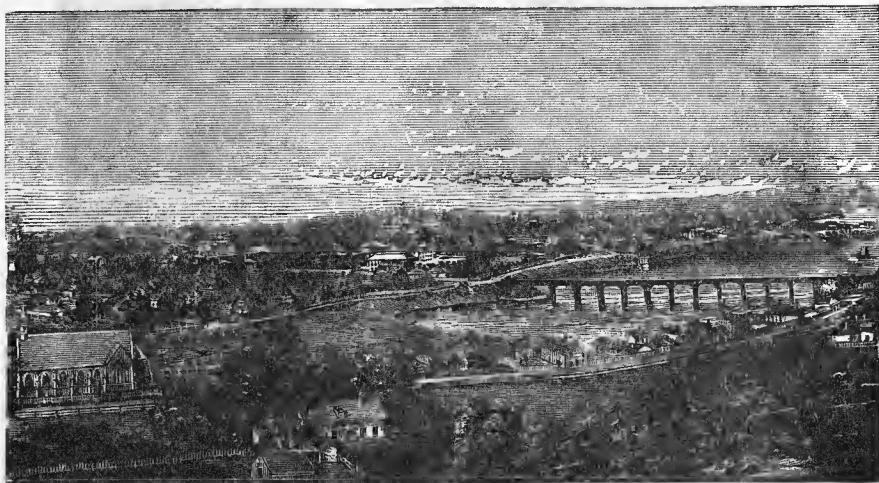
mankind this opportunity, not only of studying nature, but of admiring the accomplishments of modern engineering. The agriculturist must pardon me for wandering for a short time from studying his interest, and if ever he has the good luck of visiting this district he will readily forgive my weakness for scenery. With this very inadequate description of these wonderful mountains, some of their peaks rising 10,000 feet high, I will endeavour to give a short description of British Columbia. The climate in this part of Canada is all that the Britisher can desire. The Hermit and Gold Ranges are similar to the mountains of Wales, but the valleys between them are much richer than ours, and grow trees of enormous size. It is not uncommon to see cedars and pine perfectly sound 6 to 7 feet in diameter, and many weighing 30 to 35 tons, and in some places so thick on the ground that it would be almost impossible to pass between them. I put my tape around one stump, supposed to have stood the storms of over 2,000 years; it is now some 60 feet high, and girths 56 feet, or nearly 19 feet through. The value of timber in British Columbia is not known, and the expense of transit



A VIEW IN STANLEY PARK, VANCOUVER.

and handling such monsters is a barrier that remains to be overcome. To a stranger the splitting up of pine 4 or 5 feet in diameter for fire-wood seems an unpardonable offence. Some of these fine trees run up 200 feet without a branch, and from 50 to 100 feet higher with very few branches of only small dimensions. The land that produces these needs no other recommendation, but the clearing of even a few acres is almost too much for individual exertion. No doubt, in a few years, the timber trade of British Columbia will develop a mine of wealth, and will gradually clear the land for the agriculturist.

The valleys that are now available for agriculture are believed to be as rich as any in the world. In many places the alluvial deposit is 15 feet deep, and will grow four tons of hay to the acre, year after year, without manure. On the banks of the Fraser River wheat, oats, rye, and all other agricultural produce grow to perfection, as do fruit of all descriptions, the trees maturing and bearing fruit in three or four years. I measured one cherry tree near Mission; it girthed 5 inches, had borne a heavy crop for three years, and was only six years old. This industry will soon be developed, and prove a formidable rival to San Francisco, in supplying the North-West Territories with what they cannot produce; on the other hand, it would be cheaper for the Columbians to buy wheat from Manitoba than to produce it on land that can be made better use of. The land in British Columbia is worth about the same as in this country, and lets for about the same rent—20s. to 32s. per acre; but there is no other burden upon it, except a rate of 10d. per acre, and it is more productive than the average of the best land in England.



CITY OF VICTORIA.

The city of Victoria, the capital of British Columbia, which has a population of 15,000, and is situated south of Vancouver Island, is more

like an English town in every respect than any other in Canada, and but for the presence of some 2,500 Chinese, one would have felt quite at home. But where servants are so scarce, and labour so dear, the Chinaman is found very useful. The Island of Vancouver is full of mineral wealth, several large fortunes having been accumulated, and many more are now being made. Nanaimo, a small town 76 miles north of Victoria, is the centre of a busy mining district. Coal of the best quality is raised and sold at the pit mouth at 1s. to 1s. 3d. per 100 lbs. Miners gain from 8s. to 12s. per day of eight hours' shift. There are many thousands of acres in the valleys of Vancouver Island where the agriculturist would thrive, but the timber merchant must precede him, and while the supply continues on the banks of the Fraser River the timber trade of Vancouver Island will be heavily handicapped. This mighty stream is made use of to carry the timber growing on its banks for hundreds of miles into the sawing mills near the thriving city of Vancouver. This seaport has now a population as large as Victoria, although a much younger town. When the line of steamers commences plying between here and Australia, India, and New Zealand its future will be most promising. New Westminster, another growing city on the Fraser River, will soon become an important centre; a railway running from the opposite side of the river direct to the States will, when complete, give a stimulus to the salmon trade, which is already very extensive. The supply of salmon in the Fraser seems to be inexhaustible, and the Government make every effort to assist in keeping it up by hatching the salmon in a large house, specially prepared, from which they turn out from six to seven million young salmon yearly, after rearing them by artificial means till they are two months old. There are several extensive factories on the banks of the river opposite New Westminster, where the salmon is "canned" or preserved. This is a most interesting process, and many hundreds of workmen are employed during the season in netting, cleaning, and cutting up the fish. It is then put into the familiar 1-lb. tins found in almost every house in this country. The tins are then soldered up and put into large vats, where it is boiled by steam at a certain degree of heat; each can is then proved and the gas let out; they are then placed on iron carriers and run into a retort, where they are subjected to about double the heat of the vats. One of these factories turns out 20,000 cases, containing 48 tins in each, or nearly one million pounds, in the season. To all classes of young women, especially cooks and general servants, British Columbia has certainly more attractions than any other part of the Dominion. Wages from £12 (for mere children) to £60 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing, for the best cooks, the Chinamen doing all the rough work. Mechanics are also well paid in all the towns, especially in Vancouver and New Westminster, where the building trade is brisk, and town sites have more than doubled their value in two or three years. Market gardeners are doing well; engagements for common gardeners and labourers are easily obtained, and they are paid from 30s. to 50s. per week. Capitalists would also find good investments and secure nearly double the interest for their money that is possible in this country; and the same can be said of all

parts of Canada—in fact, there is no class of the community who have energy or capital that could not better their position by emigrating to any province in the Dominion, the choice, of course, being a matter for the emigrant's own taste and inclinations.

The agricultural shows in nearly all the provinces are carried on much in the same way as they are in this country, but the townspeople take more interest, as a rule, than they do here. The show at Toronto (the Chicago of Canada), with its population of 175,000, was a grand success, financially and otherwise. The site is well selected, and belongs to the city, but is let by the Corporation to an energetic committee, who have erected permanent buildings with ample room for all the exhibits, more buildings being put up annually as the show increases. This exhibition differed somewhat from others that I had the pleasure of seeing. By various attractions other than agricultural and horticultural produce, the show is made self-supporting—the gate-money covering all expenses. The marvellous dexterity of the cowboys in the Wild West Show and other performances during the day, and the fireworks at night, attracted thousands of spectators, who would probably have never visited an agricultural show pure and simple. Many of the agricultural exhibits would have done credit to our Royal Show. The Canadian-bred Shorthorns in all the classes were a grand lot, and a few exceedingly good Herefords were shown. The Aberdeen and Polled-Angus would have run well in the Royal and Highland Show of Scotland. There were many other breeds exhibited, the Holsteins being very numerous. This breed is chiefly fostered on account of their milking qualities, but their straight rib indicates a bad feeder, and unless they can be improved in this respect they are doomed to disappear and make room for the all-round animal. The horses were a good average lot, but not equal to our best shows in number or quality. Some good imported Clydesdale and Shire stallions were exhibited, and in a few years the quantity and quality of the Ontario heavy horses will no doubt be much improved. The light horses were not what an Englishman would have called first-class, a great deal of the native form being prominent, especially in the mares—flat rib, short hindquarters, and long backs, not well adapted for saddle-work, but grand harness horses and good stagers, 30 to 40 miles a day with heavy loads is a common journey. In driving after them across the prairies I often admired their power of endurance. With the importation of good sires, such as were exhibited here, a vast change will soon be seen in the Canadian light horses. Shropshires, Cotswolds, Southdowns, and Leicesters were all well represented, and a few Merinos and cross-bred sheep were exhibited. Pigs and poultry were also numerous and well bred, the Berkshire seem to be the favourite in the former. The Plymouth Rocks and Leghorn are about equal favourites in the poultry; geese, turkeys, and ducks of enormous sizes were shown, many of them far heavier than the average in our best shows. Roots, grain, butter, cheese, and garden produce were excellent; the pears, peaches, apples, and grapes—grown in the open air—were everything in appearance and flavour that could be desired. Some monster melons, and what are termed “squash,”

were among the produce testifying to extraordinary richness in the soil that produced them. All the cereals were exceedingly bright, and the samples of barley from all parts of the Dominion were all that a Burton maltster could desire. Up to now its cultivation has not been extensive, but is on the increase, and will prove before many years a valuable commodity for export to England, by which our Midland farmers will be heavily handicapped. The show of implements was in every respect worthy of the Canadian mechanic. By continual improvements and new inventions the "Self-binder" is almost perfect—light in construction, but made of the very best material—durable, and very cheap. With the cost of labour in Canada this implement is indispensable to the farmer. The machinery and all the other implements were equal in every respect to the best exhibits in the leading shows of England. The exhibits at Calgary were next in number to that of Toronto. Some of the horses shown were superior to any exhibited at the latter. The agricultural show at Birtle was the only other one in which I saw the whole exhibits. The roadster mares and foals here excelled; some exceedingly good cross-bred cattle were also shown, the native breed being continually improved by the introduction of Shorthorn bulls.

I should like to remind the farmers of Wales, who have for years depended almost entirely upon the rearing of store cattle, that they will find in the very near future formidable rivals in the Canadians, whose exports of live cattle have nearly doubled since 1888; last season 120,654 were sent to this country during the six to seven months that the St. Lawrence River is navigable.

At Regina and Medicine Hat I inspected some excellent mangolds, swedes, potatoes, cabbages, carrots, and all kinds of vegetables and cereals; at Calgary and Birtle the vegetables and cereals were also exceedingly good, nearly in every case grown without the aid of manure of any kind.

I have been engaged in cases of arbitration, and, as a valuer of farm crops in Wales for upwards of a quarter of a century, think I am entitled to venture an opinion upon a subject which must be of great interest to my fellow-countrymen in the Principality, as well as to Canadian farmers. I have endeavoured to understate rather than overstate the productive capacity of the Canadian North-West, and this will be generally admitted when I state that my calculations are based upon a four years' average, one year of which was the worst that had been known for 12 years.

The following table shows the cost of wheat-growing in Manitoba as compared with the cost in Wales:—

*Cost of Wheat Growing in Manitoba, Produce per Acre, and Price.*

| Year.                  | Yield per Acre. |     |     |    | Price per Bushel |   |   |   |
|------------------------|-----------------|-----|-----|----|------------------|---|---|---|
|                        | Bushels.        |     |     |    | of 60 Lbs.       |   |   |   |
| 1887 ... ..            | ...             | ... | ... | 25 | 76 cents         | = | 3 | 0 |
| 1888 ... ..            | ...             | ... | ... | 23 | 78 "             | = | 3 | 1 |
| 1889 ... ..            | ...             | ... | ... | 15 | 90 "             | = | 3 | 7 |
| 1890 ... ..            | ...             | ... | ... | 20 | 84 "             | = | 3 | 4 |
| Average ...            | ...             | ... | ... | 23 | 82 "             | = | 3 | 3 |
| £3 15s. 8½d. per acre. |                 |     |     |    |                  |   |   |   |

*Expenses.*

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Interest on purchase money of farm bought at £3 per acre, at 7½ per cent. ... .. | £0 4 6   |
| Ploughing, seed, and sowing ... ..   | 0 15 6   |
| Harvesting, threshing, and carting to elevators ... ..                           | 0 16 4   |
| Winter keep of horses and oxen per acre ... ..                                   | 0 1 6    |
| Rates and taxes per acre ... ..  | 0 0 8    |
|  | <hr/>    |
|  | 1 18 6   |
| Balance profit per acre ... ..   | 1 17 2½  |
|  | <hr/>    |
|  | £3 15 8½ |

*Cost as above in Wales.*

| Year.          | Yield per Acre. |      | Price per Quarter. |    |    |
|----------------|-----------------|------|--------------------|----|----|
|                | Qrs.            | Bls. | £                  | s  | d  |
| 1887 ... ..    | 4               | 6    | 1                  | 12 | 6  |
| 1888 ... ..    | 4               | 0    | 1                  | 11 | 10 |
| 1889 ... ..    | 4               | 3    | 1                  | 9  | 9  |
| 1890 ... ..    | 3               | 7    | 1                  | 11 | 0  |
|                | <hr/>           |      | <hr/>              |    |    |
| Average ... .. | 4               | 2    | £1                 | 11 | 3½ |

£6 12s. 11d. per acre.

*Expenses.*

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Average rent of wheat-growing land ... ..                         | £1 12 0  |
| Tithe ... ..  | 0 6 8    |
| Taxes ... ..  | 0 4 6    |
| Manure, carting, and spreading ... ..                             | 3 0 0    |
| Ploughing, seed, and sowing ... ..                                | 1 5 0    |
| Harvesting, threshing, and marketing ... ..                       | 0 18 0   |
|   | <hr/>    |
|   | 7 6 2    |
| Deduct value of straw and unexhausted manure left per acre ... .. | 1 0 0    |
|   | <hr/>    |
|   | 6 6 2    |
| Balance profit per acre ... ..                                    | 0 6 9    |
|   | <hr/>    |
|   | £3 12 11 |

Note—If interest is added to the working capital, no profit can be shown to the Welsh farmer.

*Wages Received by Farm Labourers in Manitoba and the North-West.**Farm servants—*

Summer months, from £4 10s. to £5 10s. per month, and board.

Winter " " £2 10s. to £3 0s. " "

Maid servants—from £2 to £4 10s. per month.

Stonemasons, joiners, blacksmiths, and other mechanics—8s. to 12s. per day.

*Cost of Living compared with Britain.*

Clothing that can be bought here for £3 will cost £4 in Canada.

Shoes " " 16s. will cost 12s. in Canada.

Rent of cottage here, £4 10s.; in Canada, £8.

Groceries about the same.

Coal—one-third dearer in Canada.

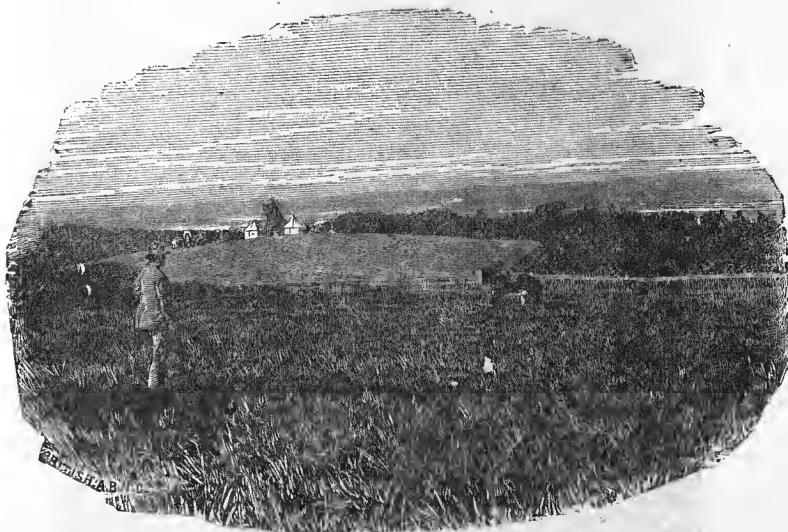
Butter, poultry, butcher's meat, and bread—one-third cheaper in Canada.

Ironmongery for household purposes—one-fifth dearer in Canada.

Implements of husbandry and harness—one-fifth cheaper in Canada.

Taking an impartial view of the situation, I fear that those who expect better prices for agricultural produce in Wales will be disappointed, and their expectation that Canada will require all its production to maintain the increasing population in the immediate future is only a delusion. The progress made in agricultural science will enable the Canadian farmers to cope with the extra demand for home consumption, leaving the production of settlers free for exportation; and, from what I have seen myself accomplished there this year by a native of Iceland, it is easy to imagine that the exports of Canada will rapidly expand in the next few years. This person, with the assistance of one man, a team of oxen, and a team of horses, will this year be able to export 1,800 bushels of wheat at 82 cents, or 3s. 3½d. per bushel, so that, instead of curtailing the exports, populating the country will certainly increase it.

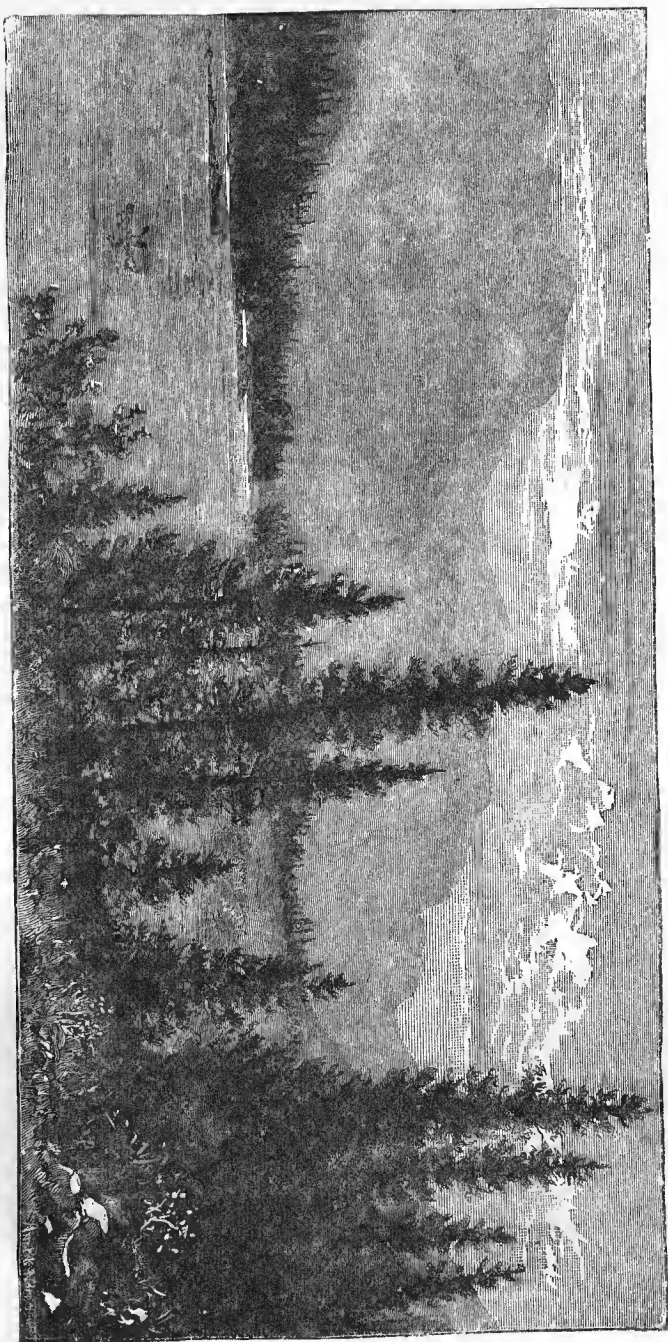
In concluding this report, I have no hesitation in recommending Canada as a field for settlement to the industrious of whatever nationality, but I would specially recommend it to the small farmers and intelligent agricultural labourers of Wales.



A PRAIRIE SCENE.



APPROACHING THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS, BOW RIVER.



## THE REPORT OF MR. GEORGE HUTCHINSON,

Brougham Castle, Penrith.

HAVING been honoured by an invitation from the Government of Canada to visit the Dominion, and report upon its suitability as a field for the settlement of agriculturists, I complied with that invitation, and now proceed to make my report. I may mention that I had previously visited Canada in the autumn of 1879, at which time I was appointed to do so by the Penrith Farmers' Club. My first visit having been a very pleasant one, I was glad to have the opportunity of making a second trip, in which I could note the changes that had taken place during the last eleven years.

I am afraid that, even after all the reliable information that has recently been spread respecting it, Canada is still considered, by the average Englishman, to be "a small strip of country between the United States and the North Pole," chiefly characterised by its severe winters and fur-bearing animals. But, in fact, the Dominion is of vast extent, teeming with natural riches, of great agricultural capabilities, and vast mineral wealth.

In company with five other delegates, I sailed from Liverpool in the Allan steamship "Circassian," on Thursday, the 28th of August, 1890. We landed at Quebec on the 7th of September, and on the following day sailed up the river St. Lawrence to Montreal. Thence we went by rail to Ottawa, where we had an interview with the Hon. J. Carling, Minister of Agriculture. Ottawa is the seat of the Dominion Parliament. The chief industry is the timber trade; the saw-mills are very large, and are worked night and day during the summer, but, on account of the ice, are stopped during the winter, excepting where steam power is used. From Ottawa we went to Toronto, where the largest Agricultural Exhibition in the Dominion was being held. The Agricultural Exhibitions in Canada are very different from our Agricultural Shows. In Canada, every town of any size has an Exhibition ground, upon which are erected large permanent buildings for exhibition purposes; the Exhibition itself being a combination of our Agricultural Show, Flower Show, Dog Show, Picnic and Variety Entertainment, these added attractions inducing those to attend who are not connected with agriculture. As 300,000 persons visited the Toronto Exhibition, it must financially have been a great success. From Toronto we went, by way of North Bay, to Manitoba. Some parts of this journey lie through country which is wild and solitary in the extreme, nothing but mountain and wood meeting the eye on every side.

*Manitoba and the North-West Territories.*—We arrived at Winnipeg, the capital of Manitoba, on Saturday, the 20th of September, and were received at the station by the Mayor and Corporation. Winnipeg is now said to have a population of 26,000. A glance at the map

of Manitoba will show clearly that the railways are so centred in Winnipeg, that, for all time to come, it must necessarily be the most important city of the North-West. It is scarcely possible to realise that, eleven years ago, not a single railway had crossed either the Red River or the Assiniboine River, and that to-day seven railways run into the city. We visited several of the schools in Winnipeg, and had a good opportunity of seeing the excellent way in which everything connected with them is carried on. I spent Sunday, the 21st of September, in Winnipeg, and I was pleased to note how well the churches I attended both morning and evening were filled, and the orderly and Sunday-like appearance of the city in general. On the Monday I drove out to St. Paul's, a few miles north of Winnipeg, and visited the Indian Industrial School, where 60 Indian boys and girls were being taught English, and trained under the blessings of civilisation.

An erroneous idea is very prevalent respecting the climate of Manitoba. If the seasons there had been as unfavourable as they are often represented, the population would never have increased at the rate it has done during the last twelve years, nor should I have found so many old settlers who have endured the winters from twelve to twenty years still looking healthy and strong. The snowfall is not so excessive as in some parts of the Dominion, the depth seldom exceeding eighteen inches or two feet. I have heard of cases in which the subsoil has been found to be frozen hard at a depth of four feet. Spring and wheat sowing generally commence in the first week in April, which is generally a dry month, giving the farmers the best possible seed-bed in which to put their wheat. I have been, times without number, assured by people who for years have made Manitoba their home, that, with a little care, they never suffer from the cold, owing to the dryness of the air; and that twenty-five degrees below zero is not felt half so much as freezing point would be in a place where there is a damp atmosphere. In speaking to the most recent settlers, who have been only a year or two in the country, they will tell you that they do not dread the winter, but rather look forward to it with pleasure, as the season for sleighing. The farmers take advantage of the facilities which winter affords them for carrying their wheat to market, and for cutting and hauling timber, which could not be easily moved at any other time. They can then take the shortest route, as the rivers, lakes, and swamps are all frozen up, and make the very best of roads.

As a general rule, the climate appears to be favourable for the sowing and gathering-in of the crops—there being very little of that rainy and murky weather that makes hay-making and harvesting so troublesome in this country—it being apparently easy to tell in the morning the sort of weather there will be during the day, and generally after a few days' rain the weather will keep fine for weeks together.

I heard a few complaints, especially from new settlers, about the annoyance arising from mosquitoes and sand-flies during the summer months; but, as a general rule, these pests are not considered of much account by the older settlers.

The frosts that occasionally occur in the autumn, not those of winter, are what the farmer in Manitoba dreads the most. These frosts pass along in streaks, something like hail-storms. In some cases you will find that while the wheat on one farm has been injured, that on the next farm has not been touched at all. I saw some very striking examples upon several farms I visited in the neighbourhood of Elkhorn. This early frost is a very tantalising trouble: the farmer may have a splendid crop of wheat ready to cut, and in a single night the frost may come and reduce its value by one-half or two-thirds; this being what really did occur in some cases, during last season in Manitoba. The frost which did the most damage last year was that of the night of August 22nd. When it is considered how short the seasons are, and how liable the wheat is to injury by these early frosts, it is of the greatest importance that the earliest varieties of wheat should be cultivated. Early sowing has also been found to overcome to a considerable extent the possibility of such damage, and the necessity of this cannot be too strongly pressed upon the farmers. Mr. J. W. Sandison, a very extensive and successful farmer near Brandon, Manitoba, was very emphatic in his belief that, if the farmers would have as much land as possible ploughed and harrowed in the autumn, so as to be in a position to make the most of the first chance in the spring for sowing, they would very seldom, if ever, have crops damaged by the early frost. He attributed his unvarying success in wheat-growing to the strict attention he had given to this. The introduction of wheat from Northern Russia is also being tried as a means of overcoming the difficulty.

When it rains in Canada, it does so to some purpose. It is a perfect downpour, such as we do not very often see here. It does not, however, last long. On my arrival in Manitoba, I found the farmers complaining of the wet weather they were having for the harvest; it was said to be the worst experienced there for fifteen years, with the exception of 1884, the latter part of which was wet. If we had had such weather in Cumberland, we should have been congratulating ourselves upon the favourable harvest conditions, as the season was, on the whole, not so wet as many we experience here.

I will now endeavour to give some account of the soil and crops in the district of Manitoba which we visited. The soil is a deep black mould, extremely rich in the chief elements of plant food, and therefore not easily exhausted. The farmers, knowing this, take all they can out of it, and return nothing whatever in the form of manure. It is true, in fact, that for several years after the soil is broken up, the addition of manure would do more harm than good. By turning up a little of the subsoil now and again, the fertility of the surface is renewed, and wheat may be grown, year after year, for a long period, without exhausting the soil. The province is too far north for growing maize, but it appears to grow garden vegetables in great perfection. Outside the city of Winnipeg, I saw a large number of market gardens in which were good crops of onions, potatoes, carrots, and many other vegetables, grown in a rough-and-ready sort of way.

Leaving Winnipeg by the South-Western Branch of the Canadian

Pacific Railway, we had a very pleasant trip to Glenboro', the present terminus of the line. I visited two or three farmers in this district, all of whom said they had succeeded beyond their expectations. Many farmers in the Glenboro' district have over 150 acres under crop. Some of them claimed to have over 30 bushels of wheat to the acre, and 50 of oats. At Glenboro' I inquired what facilities there were for obtaining land, and learned that all the free grant-lands had been taken up, but the Canadian Pacific Railway still held land for sale to actual settlers at from 20s. to 30s. per acre. There are always a number of farmers in every district ready to sell out and move further west. Near the Pelican Lake, fifteen miles north of Killarney, are settled the crofters, who were sent out with the assistance of our Government in 1888. During a drive between Glenboro' and Souris, a distance of about fifty miles, I saw some splendid crops of wheat, the fine dry weather of the last few days having put the grain into good condition. The farmers were very busy stacking, and in some cases threshing the wheat direct from the stook. Friday, September 26th, was spent in visiting Brandon and farms in the neighbourhood. We went first to Mr. J. W. Sandison's farm. Some idea of the scale upon which Mr. Sandison farms, may be gathered from the fact that he expected to have over 5,000 quarters of wheat from his crop last year. He used fourteen binders for cutting his crop. He said he would not accept an offer of £2,000 for his anticipated profits from that year's returns.



THRESHING AT SANDISON'S FARM, BRANDON.

From Brandon we drove to Rapid City, which was particularly interesting to me as being the furthest westward point which I touched during my visit in the autumn of 1879. Rapid City was without a

rival in the estimation of its inhabitants. The announcement in 1880 that the Canadian Pacific was to take a more southern course was a great blow to the city, but, having now got railway communication, it appears to be recovering, and, no doubt, in the near future it will yet become a place of some importance.

Our next halt was at Saltcoats, in Assiniboa, in the North-West Territories. This is a town of some two years' growth. It has a creamery, making from eight hundred to one thousand pounds of butter per week. The cream is gathered twice a week, from a radius of over 20 miles. In the neighbourhood of Saltcoats I called upon several farmers, most of whom appeared to be doing well, although all complained about the deficient crops of 1888 and 1889, and said the greatest drawback had been the early frost. Two farmers near Saltcoats, who had children of school age, complained about their distance from the nearest school. This point should be considered by those who have young children, previous to taking up land in a new and sparsely settled district, since the schools there must necessarily be more widely scattered than in the older districts. As this matter of education is of importance to anyone who contemplates removing with his family into a new country, I may mention that the schools in Manitoba and the North-West are endowed by setting apart two sections, or 1,280 acres, in each township; this last being a district comprising 36 square miles. I had several opportunities of visiting the schools, and of noticing the excellent way in which they are managed. As a general rule, a school is built in a new district as soon as it is required. No school fees are paid, but all the school-books have to be paid for, and these I found were very much more expensive than in England. In fact, parents who had removed with their families from England, stated that what they paid in England for school fees and books amounted to less than the cost of the books alone in Canada.

We visited Dr. Barnardo's Home for Boys, where they are taught farming. On leaving, they are assisted to start on a farm of their own, or have situations found for them in different parts of Manitoba and the North-West. This new development of Dr. Barnardo's appears to contain the elements of success, and certainly deserves to be well supported. We also visited Binscarth Farm, where we saw some extraordinarily good Shorthorns, the heifer calves being particularly worthy of mention. We also saw thirty-six cows in milk or calf, amongst which were some very good specimens. The company which owns the Binscarth Farm has two townships for sale, the object of the farm being really to show to intending purchasers the advantages and capabilities of the district.

Our next halt was at Birtle, a town in the valley of the Bird Tail Creek, and not unlike Brandon and Minnedosa in the beauty of its site. As far as we could judge during our short drive, it appeared to be in a good district, and surrounded by good farms.

We spent Thursday, October 2nd, in Portage-la-Prairie and district. In 1879 this was the most thickly settled part of the North-West. Knowing this, I expected to find great changes in the shape of better

farm buildings and fences. What I saw greatly exceeded my expectation. This district being noted for its wheat, I was surprised to find the farmers keeping so many cattle, and giving so much extra attention to stock-breeding in general. At Portage-la-Prairie I got some interesting figures as to the actual cost of growing wheat on a quarter-section, or 160 acres of land, all the work being let by contract :—

|  |     |     |     |     |     |     |    |    |    |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|----|----|
|  |     |     |     |     |     |     | £  | s. | d. |
| Ploughing  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0  | 8  | 0  |
| Seed, 2 bushels at 3s. 4d.                               | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0  | 6  | 8  |
| Sowing and Harrowing                                     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0  | 3  | 4  |
| Reaping with Binder, and Stooking                        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0  | 8  | 0  |
| Stacking and Marketing                                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0  | 4  | 8  |
| Threshing, at 2d. per bushel...                          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0  | 3  | 4  |
| Expenses per acre  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | £1 | 14 | 0  |
| These 160 acres produced 23 bushels per acre, which were |     |     |     |     |     |     | £  | s. | d. |
| sold at 3s. 4d. per bushel, or per acre                  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3  | 16 | 8  |
| Deduct expenses per acre                                 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1  | 14 | 0  |
|  |     |     |     |     |     |     | £2 | 2  | 8  |

The carriage of wheat from Manitoba to Liverpool varied considerably; but including insurance, landing, and other charges, about 2s. per bushel, or 16s. per quarter, would be over an average, so that this wheat could be delivered in Liverpool at a cost of 28s. per quarter. Manitoba wheat, at the present time, is worth 40s. per quarter in Liverpool. This price allows a considerable margin of profit for the



FARM SCENE.

wheat-growers of Manitoba. The best improved farms, with good buildings, around Portage-la-Prairie would cost from £10 to £25 per acre.

On my return from the west, I stopped for one day at each of the following places:—Wolseley, Elkhorn, Alexander, and Carberry. As these are all in Manitoba and the North-West, it will be best for me to mention them here. At Wolseley I drove through the country with Mr. J. P. Dill, to whom I am indebted for much useful information. We visited several farms, at two or three of which they were busy threshing. The major part of the wheat was a fair sample, and yielding well. On two farms it would be reduced in value quite one-third, on account of being touched by the frost. Mr. Dill gave me the following particulars of 10 steers he bought in the neighbourhood of Wolseley in July, 1890, for export to England. They weighed 10½ cwt. each, and cost 14s. 10d. per cwt., or £7 16s. 0d. each; in this country they would be worth about 30s. per cwt., or £15 15s. 0d. each, or if 56 lbs. is allowed for loss of weight during the journey, £15, or a difference of £7 4s. 0d. The settlers in Manitoba and the North-West Territories have great faith in the feeding and fattening properties of the prairie grass. The appearance of their cattle bears them out in this. They look better than could be expected, when it is considered how little convenience the farmers have in general for sheltering their stock during the winter. A mistake has been made in the early days of some settlements, of which Wolseley is one, in taking it for granted that they are best adapted for wheat-growing; whereas experience has proved that the farmer who keeps a few cattle, and goes in for "mixed farming," is the best able to tide over the seasons when the wheat crop partly fails.

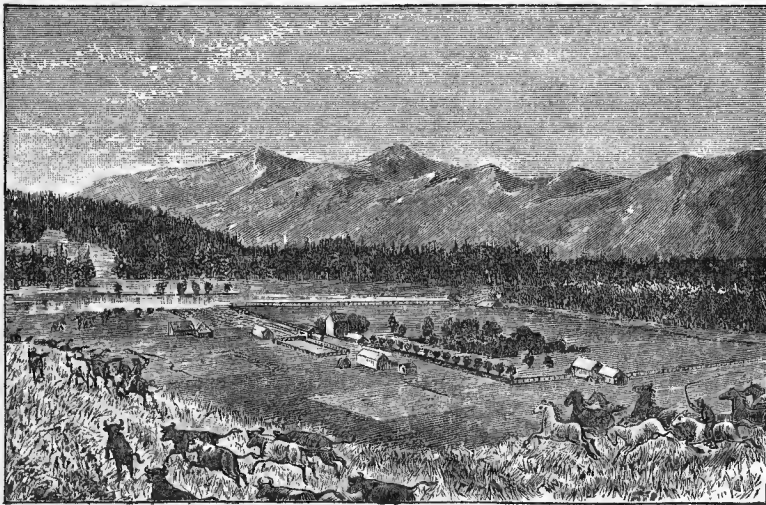
Near Alexander, I called on Mr. George M. Yeomans, who, together with his sons, has several large farms in that neighbourhood. In 1879, when I first visited Canada, Mr. Yeomans had a farm near Portage-la-Prairie, and moved to his present location soon afterwards. In a letter, dated November 10th, which I have received since my return home, Mr. Yeomans says:—"At the time you called upon me in 1879 there was not a single settler (farmer) in this neighbourhood; the nearest to where I am now writing being twenty-five miles off, at Grand Valley, a little east of where Brandon now stands. To-day there are two thriving villages, with seven grain elevators, all now running and sending out wheat; and, although the season is nearly over for threshing, yesterday I could see the smoke of eleven steam threshing machines from my door." This extract will give a better idea than any words of mine of the change that has taken place in Manitoba during the last ten years.

Carberry, my next stopping place, was particularly interesting to me, as it was upon or near the site of this town that I camped out one night on my way to Rapid City in 1879. I find from my notes taken in that year, that there was only one settler there at that time; and that between what is now Carberry and Rapid City—a distance of over twenty-five miles—we did not pass a single house. Carberry is now a town of about 500 inhabitants, and boasts that over 60,000 quarters of



grain were marketed here last year. On the day of my visit (Nov. 4th) Carberry was alive with farmers bringing their wheat into the town to sell. I counted over twenty farmers' waggons in the street at one time. The buyers also appeared to be very numerous, and the competition sufficient to satisfy the farmers that they were getting a market price for their wheat. The price for that day was 3s. 4d. per bushel, or 26s. 8d. per quarter.

From Portage-la-Prairie we continued our journey westward, on the main line of the Canadian Pacific; the first halt being at Indian Head, in Assiniboia, 314 miles west of Winnipeg. Near Indian Head are situated the Bell Farm, the Farm of the Brassey Colonisation Company, and the Government Experimental Farm. We visited these farms, but as our inspection was made in an almost continuous down-pour of rain, we could hardly do them justice. I noticed that some of the wheat on the Bell Farm had been much damaged by frost, and consequently was a very poor sample. The new railway from Regina northward having just been completed, we travelled over it as far as Prince Albert. Notwithstanding the deluge of rain from above, and the unlimited amount of mud below, the next day was spent in seeing the surrounding country. We were shown some very good samples of wheat and barley. The cattle also appeared to be healthy, in good condition, and more numerous than I expected to find them in a district which had, until recently, been so very remote from any railway communication. Prince Albert was the most northerly point reached during our tour in Canada. On our return to Regina we attended an exhibition of roots and vegetables, among which were some remarkably fine specimens. North of Regina there are two or three small stock ranches.



RANCH SCENE, ALBERTA.

Cattle in this district are worth about 1½d. per lb., live weight, a steer that would kill about 9½ stones per quarter being worth about £6 15s. The value of the same steer here, at 6½d. per lb., would be nearly £13 17s., or a difference of £7 2s. Regina is 4,011 miles from Liverpool.

We were unfortunate in visiting Regina in very wet weather, and, as a consequence, we did not see much of the district; but, from the samples we saw, it must be a fine wheat-growing district. Free homesteads can still be got within ten miles south of Regina.

Regina was the last place we stopped at in Assiniboia, our next call being at Calgary, in Alberta, 483 miles from Regina, and 2,264 from Montreal.

Calgary is the chief town in Alberta, and the centre of the most important horse and cattle ranching country of Canada. At the Quorn Ranch, which is a very large one, we saw some Irish mares with their foals, amongst which were some very good animals. I spent two days on the Knells Ranch, about thirty miles south-west of Calgary, belonging to Mr. Fisher, a native of Cumberland, to whom I am indebted for much kind attention during my stay at his place. Mr. Fisher has about 180 head of cattle, and a large number of horses. Both the cattle and horses on this ranch were in extraordinarily good condition, and appeared to be in the best of health. Very little shelter is provided for either horses or cattle on the ranches of Alberta in addition to what is afforded by nature—such as a few trees, or other natural protection. The snow does not lie long, owing to the warm winds which blow from the Pacific, through the passes of the Rocky Mountains; and, as a general rule, the winters are milder than they are further east. Stock-raising appears to be the principal industry of Alberta, although I met with some farmers who were giving a considerable amount of attention to grain-growing and dairying. On the cattle runs hay is cut and stacked in the most sheltered places, and served out to the stock during the most severe weather of winter. When Alberta becomes more thickly settled, I think it will be found that the small cattle ranches will pay best, and that the number of stock kept by one owner will not be more than can be comfortably housed. A certain amount of loss has been experienced through deaths from excessive cold during winter, and a blood disorder (supposed to be caused by the eating of injurious grasses) during summer and autumn. Should this loss reach 20 per cent., which I do not think it does, it is not so great as it would be elsewhere, when the ease and cheapness with which the cattle can be produced are taken into consideration. On the ranch adjoining Mr. Fisher's I saw some very good three-year old steers, which would weigh, when dressed, not less than 48 stones. These steers could be bought for £7 10s. each. In this country they would be worth about £17 each, leaving a margin of £9 10s. to bring them a distance of 5,131 miles to England. Great as this distance is, cattle are now being successfully transported over it. From the Cochrane Ranch, which is 100 miles further south than the one just referred to, 800 head of cattle have been landed at Liverpool, 500 of which were sold there for £17 each.

I saw very few sheep in Alberta, but those I did see would have been more profitable if more care had been bestowed upon them. After a few years it will be better understood what breeds of sheep are best suited to the country, and what shelter and food should be provided for them during winter; then, I have no doubt, sheep will do well there, as Alberta appears to have plenty of good grass adapted in every respect for growing wool and mutton, and also possesses a climate very suitable for that purpose. The cost of raising horses in Alberta is surprisingly low. They apparently require a smaller provision of hay and a less amount of shelter than cattle. There is no question that horse-raising is proving a profitable business in Alberta. A disease, somewhat similar to our "influenza," gives a considerable amount of trouble amongst the horses in that region, and throughout the North-West. This disease will no doubt soon be stamped out, as the Government always deals energetically with these matters. I visited a farm situated on the north side of the Bow River, two miles from Calgary, and owned by Mr. Jos. Laycock, a native of Kendal. This farm was well stocked, having then twenty-five head of dairy cows, with young stock, amounting in all to over seventy head. Mr. Laycock was making from 80 to 100 lbs. of butter per week, which found a ready sale in Calgary at one shilling per pound. From the appearance of the straw and oats, the crop on this farm had evidently been fairly good. Mr. Laycock had also been successful in growing a few turnips. To Dr. Lafferty, the Mayor of Calgary, I desire to give my thanks for his great kindness to me during my stay there.

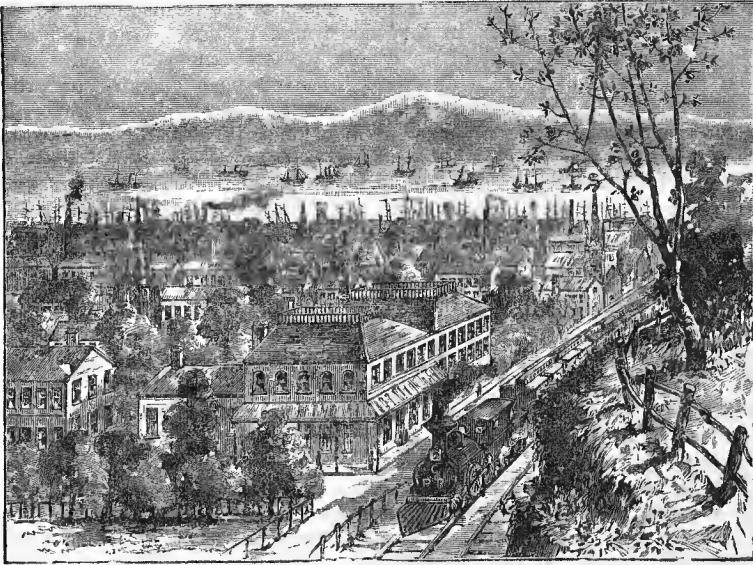
After my return from Carberry, on Wednesday, November 5th, I visited Dominion City, fifty-six miles due south from Winnipeg. The farmers here were more forward with their work than in other parts—most of the threshing being finished, and a larger area of stubble ploughed. The farmers appeared to be well satisfied with the return from this year's crop, it being not at all unusual for the yield to have been as high as thirty bushels per acre.

*British Columbia.*—A description of the scenery of the Rocky Mountains being scarcely included within the scope of this report, I shall not dwell upon it, further than to say that its magnificence and grandeur are exceedingly impressive.

New Westminster is a prettily situated little town on the Fraser River. It is the second town on the mainland of British Columbia, and also the centre of by far the largest agricultural district of the province. There are also some most extensive saw-mills here, one of which we visited, and were astonished at the speed with which the saw passed through the logs, and the expeditious way the partly finished timber was passed about from one machine to another, by the aid of various carriers. There are also numerous salmon fishing and salmon packing establishments along the Fraser River, which employ a large number of men, especially Indians. From New Westminster we sailed down the Fraser River, an exceedingly fine stream, exceeding in some parts two miles in width. At Ladner's, near the mouth of the river, we visited an orchard containing a large number of apple and other fruit trees. Apples appear to grow well in this district,

and from the number of young trees I saw, the farmers appear to be giving increased attention to the culture of this fruit. On our return up the river to New Westminster, we called at the Salmon Cannery of Messrs. Ewen & Co. This establishment is a very extensive one, and turns out in one season over 25,000 cases, each case containing forty-eight 1-lb. cans of salmon. On our return we noted the splendid scenery on the banks of the Fraser, and on approaching New Westminster, the view we obtained of the city gave us a vivid impression of the beauty of its situation.

On the following day we drove over the twelve miles which separate New Westminster from Vancouver City. The road is cut through the native forest of majestic pines and cedars.



VANCOUVER.

Vancouver City is the Pacific terminus of the Canadian Pacific Railway. The site upon which the city stands has been cleared, at the cost of an immense sum, from forest land, upon which grew the monster trees which are common in this neighbourhood. In 1885 there stood where the city now stands, a solitary saw-mill; but as soon as it was ascertained that this spot was destined to be the terminus of the mighty railway, hundreds of people rushed thither, and within a year a city arose, which in June of the following year was completely destroyed by fire, not a house being left. It is now said to contain 14,000 people. From Vancouver City we passed over to Lulu Island and Sea Island, at the mouth of the Fraser River. These islands have an area of over 40,000 acres; the soil is very rich, and yields crops of surprising quantity

—three tons of hay, eight quarters of oats, and seven quarters of wheat being given as the average yield per acre. Most of this land could have been bought five or six years ago at from 4s. to 5s. per acre; now from £8 to £15 is demanded.

From Vancouver City, we crossed the Gulf of Georgia to Nanaimo, on the Island of Vancouver. The principal coal mines of British Columbia are situated here. From Nanaimo we went to Victoria, by the Railway which connects these two cities. Almost the whole of this line (73 miles) passes through heavily timbered land, a very small proportion of which is cleared, with few signs of settlement.

Victoria is the capital of British Columbia. It is delightfully situated, commanding a splendid view of the Straits of Georgia. On the day after our arrival in Victoria we had a long drive into the country and visited several farms. Most of the farms appear to be small, and to be carried on in a rather rough fashion. On one farm, better managed than some of the others, we saw some very good wheat and oats. The dairy also appeared to be giving a good return, the butter making 1s. 5d. per lb. All the best land being heavily timbered, a good farm can be got only after great expense in clearing the forest. This work is said to cost from £5 to £10 per acre. Small cleared farms, with buildings, can be bought near Victoria at from £5 to £25 per acre. One near Victoria, which had a large orchard of good fruit-bearing trees, and good buildings, had been recently sold for £30 per acre.

On our return to New Westminster, we sailed up the Fraser River as far as the Chilliwack Valley on the south bank. Through this district we had a long drive, and noticed that most of the farmers gave their chief attention to fruit-growing and dairying. The lumber industry will, for years to come, continue to be of some importance in this district, and afford employment to a large number of men. At Popcorn, where there is a very large saw-mill, we crossed the Fraser River, and walked to the Government Experimental Farm at Agassiz. Here we found the men busy taking out the large fir stumps, most of the land having had to be cleared before being cultivated. I measured one of these trees, the root of which they were taking out. It was 150 feet long and 5 feet in diameter. From Agassiz we continued our journey eastward.

Wages in British Columbia are higher than further east. An ordinary unskilled labourer receives about six shillings per day. Farm servants, engaged by the month, are paid from £4 to £6, with board and lodging. The Chinamen perform most of the domestic duties in Victoria, and generally fill the places of the under-servants. Their presence, however, is tolerated only for the sake of convenience, white labour for this class of work being difficult to obtain. Women servants are scarce, and get from £2 10s. to £4 per month, with board.

The climate of British Columbia is very different from that of the part of Canada lying east of the Rocky Mountains. It varies considerably in different localities, but, taken as a whole, it is much more moderate and equable than that of any other portion of Canada,

enjoying cooler summers and milder winters. The appearance of the country in general denotes a heavy rainfall. The wooden roofs of the houses, in some places, have a thick covering of green moss, and the forests have a thick undergrowth of plants and shrubs, which grow only in a moist atmosphere.

*Ontario.*—I spent six days in this province on my first arrival in September, and completed my inspection on my return from the West in the latter part of November and the beginning of December. Before leaving Toronto I had my first experience of a Canadian winter, as at this time the snow was falling fast, and the sleighs had taken the place of the ordinary means of conveyance.

At Toronto, the Agricultural Exhibition, or Show, was being held. We had here an opportunity of seeing samples of the agricultural produce from every part of the Dominion, from the Atlantic to the Pacific coast. The cattle classes were very good, especially the Short-horns. The heavy horses were not an important class, either in numbers or quality. The light trotting horses yoked to light carriages are always a great feature at the Canadian exhibitions—every farmer possessing, as a matter of course, the best trotter. The machinery and implements were an interesting display, their chief notable features being their extreme lightness of material, and evidently good construction. Self-binding reapers were very numerous, the ordinary reaper being conspicuous by its almost total absence. This indicates how largely the binders are used and appreciated. The exhibit of grain was very large, the finest samples being those of wheat and peas, the oats and barley not being so good. Potatoes and mangels were good; the turnips, in some cases, were very large, but rather coarse.

One day was spent at Guelph and the farms in the neighbourhood. This is one of the best agricultural districts of Ontario. The Guelph Agricultural College is also well worthy of a visit. The college and farm buildings are well placed upon rising ground in the centre of the farm, which consists of 550 acres of various qualities of soil. The students do nearly the whole work upon the farm, under the superintendence of a foreman for each department. The students are paid for this work at rates varying from 2d. to 5d. per hour. They can in this way largely reduce the cost of their board and lodging, for which they are charged 10s. per week. In our drive round the farm we saw an excellent crop of Indian corn; this, after being passed through a cutter, makes excellent food for stock. The college has also conferred a great benefit on the farmers of Ontario by the importation of thorough-bred stock, and by holding annual sales as the animals increase on the farm.

Near Hamilton we saw a splendid crop of grapes, said to amount to more than two tons to the acre. The best fruit section of Ontario is in the south—in the counties lying between Lakes Erie and Ontario—it being only in this region that, up to the present, fruit-growing has received much attention.

Accompanied by Mr. W. F. Cockshutt, of Brantford, I visited the Bow Park Farm, where I found a herd of Shorthorns which in number and quality cannot be equalled in Canada, and perhaps not surpassed in any other country. Canadian farmers, having such a herd in their

midst, ought to improve the general quality of their stock faster than they are apparently doing; and it is a surprising fact that the majority of the bulls sold at Bow Park are bought by farmers from the United States, whereas it is evident that it would conduce much to the benefit of the Dominion to keep them at home. In the neighbourhood of Brantford, the land is of good quality, and can be bought, a few miles out of the town, for from £8 to £12 per acre.

At Norval, in the county of Halton, and in the district round that town, I spent four days with Mr. John Roblnson, a native of Penrith, to whom I am indebted for much kindness during my stay. One farm, about two miles from Norval, 100 acres in extent, had been recently sold for £1,600, and afterwards let for 14s. per acre, and another adjoining it for £1,175, and let for 12s. per acre, or on an average for the two, of about twenty years' purchase on the rent. These farms had good dwelling-houses and buildings. The taxes on each of these two farms amounted to £6 10s. per annum. The average yield of wheat in this district is from eighteen to twenty-five bushels, and of barley twenty-five bushels per acre. At the flour mill in the town of Norval, the farmers were receiving 4s. per bushel for their wheat, delivered at the mill. It is not so easy to calculate the cost of growing and marketing an acre of wheat in Ontario as in Manitoba, but, for the sake of comparison, I give the following, which is the average received from several farmers:—

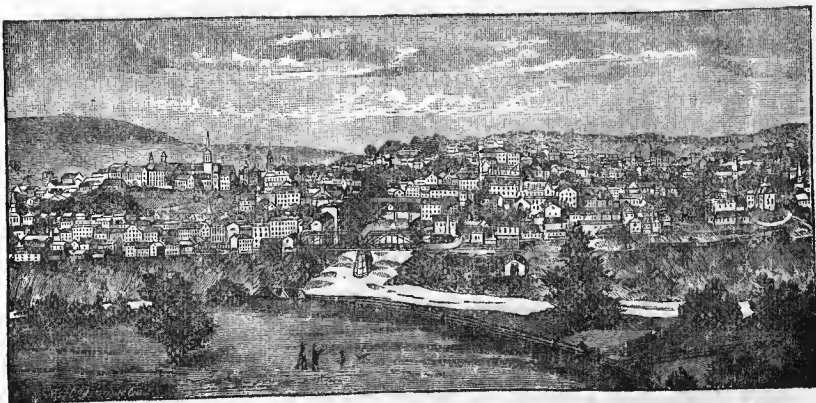
|   | £  | s. | d. |
|---|----|----|----|
| Ploughing, Sowing, and Harrowing ... .. | 1  | 13 | 4  |
| Harvesting and Carting ... ..           | 0  | 6  | 3  |
| Threshing ... ..                        | 0  | 3  | 0  |
| Carting to Market ... ..                | 0  | 2  | 5  |
| Rent and Taxes ... ..                   | 0  | 16 | 0  |
|   | £3 | 1  | 0  |
| <hr/>                                   |    |    |    |
|   | £  | s. | d. |
| 23 bushels at 4s. per bushel ... ..     | 4  | 12 | 0  |
| Deduct expenses per acre ... ..         | 3  | 1  | 0  |
|   | £1 | 11 | 0  |

At St. Mary's, in the county of Perth, I called upon Mr. J. D. Moor, who gave me some very useful information about the egg and butter trade, in which he is very largely interested. Mr. Moor sends waggons into the country for fifteen miles around, and collects the eggs and butter from the farmers. Last year from this district 660,000 dozen of eggs were collected by Mr. Moor and another dealer, the price paid varying from 6d. per dozen in March, to 9d. in November. Mr. Moor pays the farmers 6d. per lb. for butter in summer, and for a short time in winter as high as 9d. The butter made in the factories generally fetches 2d. per lb. more than ordinary farmer's butter.

At Tavistock I was shown over one of Mr. Ballantyne's cheese factories, by the manager, Mr. Bell, who gave me some useful particulars regarding the cheese trade. Mr Bell is probably as good an authority on cheese-making and the cheese trade as I could have met with,

There are six cheese factories within a radius of 10 miles from Tavistock, at which 905 tons of cheese were manufactured during last season, and there are over 400 co-operative cheese factories similar to the above in Ontario, so that the total quantity of cheese made must be very large. Almost the whole of this cheese comes to Great Britain. At the present rate of increase, it will not be long before more cheese is brought hither from Canada, than from any other country. The cheese at the Tavistock Factory was sold during last May, June, and July for  $4\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb., and during August for  $5\frac{1}{4}$ d. At this factory the farmers are charged 1d. per lb. commission for manufacturing the cheese, so that the farmers would really get 1d. per lb. less than the above. It takes about one gallon of milk to make one lb. of cheese, so that the farmers sending milk to the Tavistock Dairy were receiving  $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. per gallon in May, June, and July, and  $4\frac{1}{4}$ d. in August. The cost of taking the milk from the farm to the factory is included in the charge of 1d. per lb. for manufacturing the cheese. At the Union or Big Factory, the cost of making cheese is  $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per lb., being less than the average on account of the larger amount made, and the shorter distance the milk has to be hauled to the factory.

At Woodstock, in Oxford County, I visited a farm of 300 acres, belonging to Mr. Wm. Donaldson, who is a native of Dalston, in Cumberland. He has a very superior stock of cattle and sheep, amongst the cattle being some very good heifers. He gave 16s. 6d. each for 60 lambs, which, after feeding them for four months, he had just sold for 20s. 3d. per 100 lbs. of live weight, or 29s. each. These lambs were sold to go to Buffalo, in the United States, where 3s. duty would have to be paid upon each. Mr. Donaldson also fattens, during winter, about 20 steers, which he says pay very well. During my visit he had twenty, for which he had paid £7 10s. each. He had three men-servants, who were boarded in the house, one of whom received in wages £33, and the other two, each £31 a year.



SHERBROOKE, EASTERN TOWNSHIP



My visit to the Eastern Townships and the Maritime Provinces was paid too late in the season to allow me to see much. I was pleased with what I did see of them; their general aspect, in some places, being somewhat like that of some parts of Cumberland—hilly, well watered and wooded. The soil appeared to be good, and particularly well adapted for green crops and pasture. The land, too, considering its quality, was cheaper than in the neighbouring provinces. One farm of 180 acres, with comfortable house and good barn, could be bought for £750, and a second of 300 acres, with two dwelling-houses—one in good order—good farm buildings, railway station upon the farm, and school within one mile, could be bought for £1,250. There are many farms for sale, of which the two I have mentioned are a fair average. I would advise anyone visiting Canada with a view to settling, to see this district for themselves.

In Nova Scotia we paid a visit to the far-famed fruit-growing district of the Annapolis Valley. Few parts of Canada can show such prosperous-looking farm-houses, or such pretty villages as can be seen in this valley, which lies between Digby and Windsor. The apple orchards are rapidly increasing, not only in the Annapolis Valley, but also in many other parts of this province. It is becoming more generally recognised that excellent fruit can be grown over a large area of Nova Scotia. Another great feature of this province is the dyke-lands, which have been reclaimed from the shallows at the inlets of the Bay of Fundy. As the name dyke-lands suggests, they have been enclosed from the sea. In many cases the grass is cut from swamps, which have not yet been dyked, and over which the tides flow during certain seasons. The grass is made into hay and stacked on a framework, which is raised several feet above the foot of the piles. It is a curious sight to see the water flowing around and under the stacks, when the tide is at its height. The real dyke-lands are fenced in from the sea by a strong bank of earth, from six to eight feet high, the land within the dyke being quite firm and solid. These dyke-lands, or bottom-lands, are of great value to the owners of the adjoining highlands, their fertility being unusually high. They are never manured, yet, on an average, upwards of two tons of hay per acre are cut from them; and this has been done for many years without showing signs of running out. These dyke-lands are worth from £20 to £40 per acre, while a farm on the highlands, with dwelling-house and buildings, will not be worth more than £2 to £6 per acre.

#### CONCLUSION.

Emigration is a matter that should be undertaken very carefully, and an endeavour should be made to get clear ideas of what settling in a young country really means. In many parts of Canada there are as good farmers, as good houses, and as good schools as in England. But it must not be forgotten that considerable capital is required to purchase a farm in these districts. Anyone going out with the intention of taking up a free grant, must expect to live for a few years in a very thinly-settled district, and, as a consequence, to put up with a good many inconveniences, in addition to the usual ones of mosquitoes,

bad roads in summer, and cold in winter. These things are, no doubt, more or less of an annoyance, but I have often noticed how little most of the people, who have been a short time in the country, regard them. The large number of farms for sale in the old provinces may be accounted for as follows:—Most of the owners obtained the land for nothing, and by hard work have made it of considerable value; with the capital acquired by selling it, they wish to take up land in Manitoba, or the North-West Territories, where they have better opportunities of getting their sons settled upon farms of their own. Some of the farmers of Ontario have so reduced the fertility of their farms, that they find it no longer profitable to farm them in the old way, and either have not capital enough, or are not willing to change their system of farming, to bring the land into heart again. They therefore want to sell, and begin afresh on new land further west. There are also many farmers who have their farms mortgaged, and are ready to sell and make a fresh start.

It may be said that the same reasons apply to the British farmer, and that he also, if going to Canada, should go to Manitoba or the North-West. But it appears to me that the English farmer, in taking up land in the older provinces, will find life more like that he has been accustomed to, and will be able to bring the soil into a better state of cultivation in many cases in which it has been much neglected. On the other hand, no one could be better adapted than the native Canadian to open up a new country.

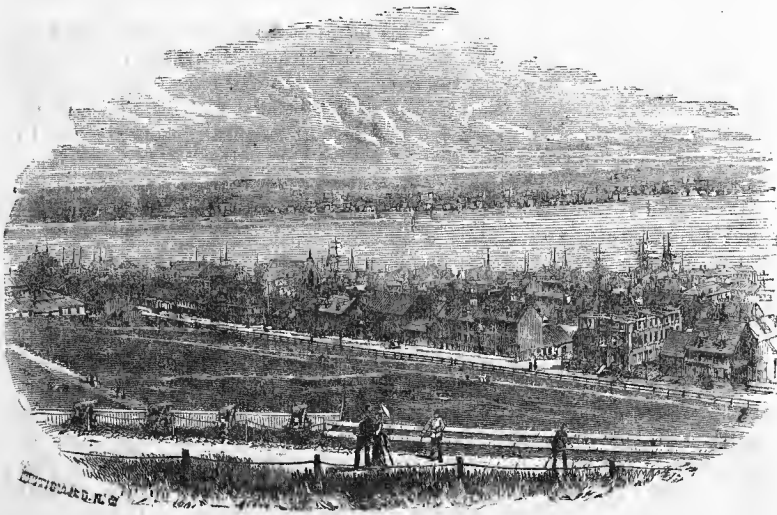
The farmer who has made up his mind to leave his native land to seek a home on Canadian soil, will find in either Manitoba or the old provinces plenty of scope for his energies. He will have the advantage of being nearer England than in any of her other Colonies, and will go to a land of immense mineral as well as agricultural resources yet to be developed, a land that has a great future before it.

The question might be asked, "Who ought to go to Manitoba and the North-West?" I reply, any man who has made up his mind to emigrate, and is not afraid of hard work, and a few discomforts for a few years, especially one whose family is old enough to be of some use upon the farm. No doubt there are many drawbacks to be encountered, many hardships to be endured, but not one that a little pluck and perseverance will not overcome, and none that will not be amply compensated for by the comfort and independence to be gained after a few years. Anyone about to take up a homestead should take plenty of time in making his choice, and do nothing hastily. There are many interested parties who will urge him to make a purchase which might prove a disappointing one. The soil, and even the climate, vary very much, even in districts not far apart. Great care is therefore necessary in the choice of a location. It is a good plan to spend a year or two in the country before finally deciding, and then to buy or settle in a district of which some knowledge has thus been gained. Anyone, if there be such, who goes to Canada with the expectation that as soon as he sets his foot on her soil he will make his fortune, is under a great mistake. Above all things, an emigrant should have good health, and be prepared to do anything that first comes to his

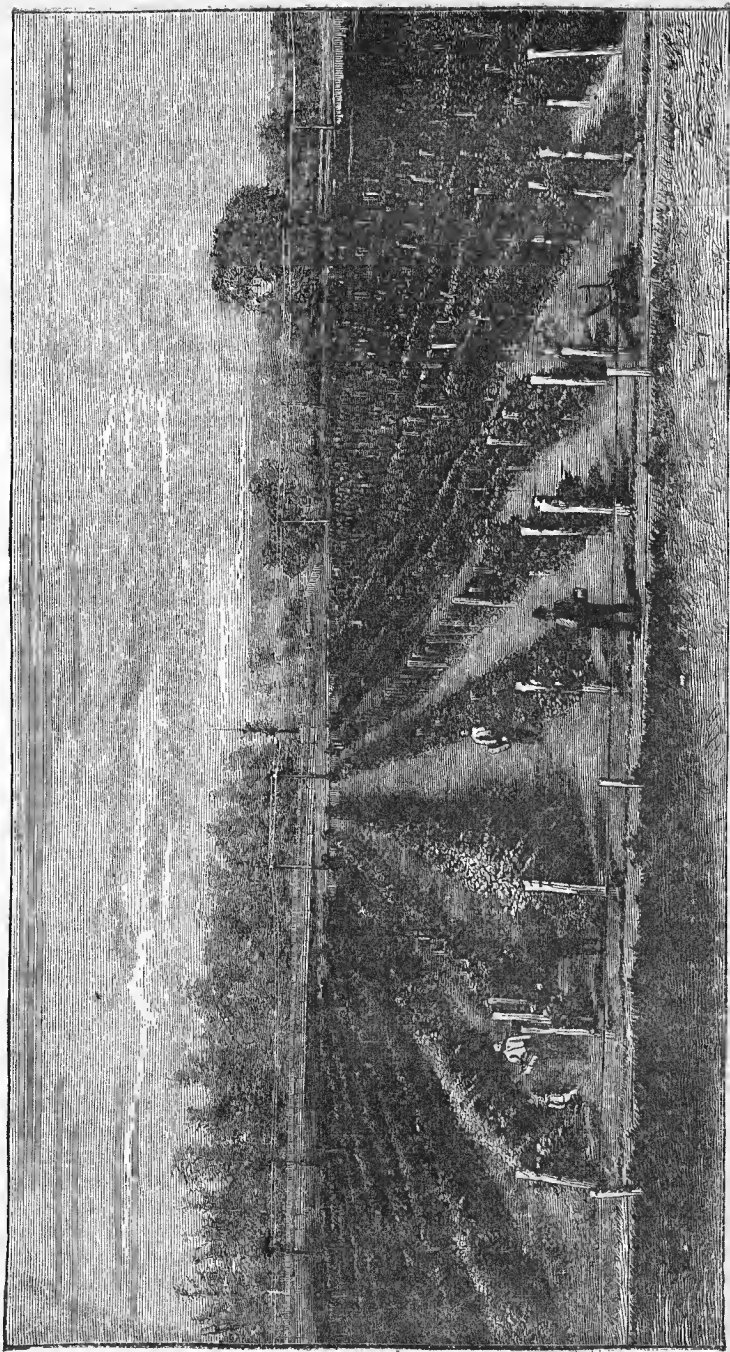
hand; he will then, in a few years, find himself his own landlord and independent.

I have been careful in this report to avoid even the appearance of exaggeration, but my desire is that everything I have said should be taken in its fullest meaning.

In conclusion, I beg to thank all those who showed me such extreme kindness during my sojourn in the Dominion; especially Mr. G. H. Campbell, who rendered us such invaluable assistance during the time we spent in the West, and the Hon. J. Carling, Minister of Agriculture, who received us so courteously at the outset of our course of inspection.



CITY OF HALIFAX



AN ONTARIO VINEYARD AT EAST HAMILTON.

## THE REPORT OF MR. WILLIAM SCOTSON,

Rose Lane, Mossley Hill, Liverpool.

HAVING had the honour to be invited by Sir Charles Tupper, High Commissioner for Canada, to proceed thither for the purpose of inspecting the agricultural resources of the Dominion, and report thereon, I shall now endeavour to state concisely what I saw, what I heard, and what are the conclusions that I draw from my visit.

I left Liverpool on the 4th of September last in the Allan Line Royal Mail Steamer "Sardinian." She proved herself a magnificent sea boat, and we never had occasion to waver in the sense of full security, which all on board seemed to entertain, when she began to cleave her way through the ocean. The following day, the 5th, the steamer called at Moville, Ireland, to take on board passengers and mails, and we greatly enjoyed our view of the lovely scenery. In the foreground stood the ruins of Green Castle, boldly prominent on the shore, whilst white one-storied houses, surrounded by fields whose brilliant verdure bore out fully the reputation of the Green Isle, and by others whose rich freight of ripening grain spoke of comfortable husbandry, stretched far and wide along the shores of the Lough. When mails and passengers were safe on board we sailed away into a choppy sea, and after a quiet voyage, rather devoid of incident, the shores of Newfoundland were neared. Here we encountered a fleet of icebergs, first one, then another, and then quite a flotilla hove in sight, their varied dimensions and fantastic shapes, together with the brilliant rainbow hues in which they reflected the brilliant sunlight, making up a picture not easily forgotten. Then came the cry "Land O! Belle Isle." A rocket was fired from our vessel, and answered by another from the lighthouse. Having passed this wild and lonely station, we came in succession to Anticosti and to Rimouski. At the latter place a steamer came alongside to take off mails and passengers. We proceeded on through mist and rain to Quebec, arriving on the morning of Sunday, the 17th of September. Mr. Stafford, the Resident Government Immigration Agent at Quebec, met our party at the steamer and drove us out to Vermont, just as the church-going people were on their way to the several places of worship. All were well dressed, and appeared to be content and happy. The people here are mostly French, or of French extraction. The settlements, or allotments, are chiefly what are called 30-acre lots, with 3-acre frontages, and running 10 acres deep. They appeared to be generally well cultivated, and were bearing good crops of potatoes, onions, buckwheat, timothy grass, which is mostly made into hay for workhorses; clovers; which are given to cows in milk; and Indian corn, which is grown and used as a vegetable, whilst the stalks are useful as fodder. Vermont is seven miles from Quebec, and seems to be a favourite

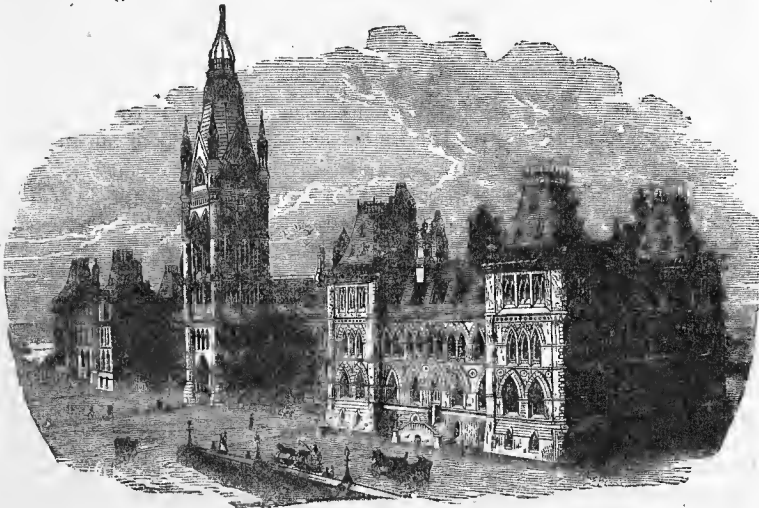
resort of visitors from that city. The church-goers often drive considerable distances; the horses are tied to a long rail fixed on posts, without troubling to take them out of the shafts, and there they remain during the service. Those who drive much usually take a weight in their conveyances, to which they tether their animals when they want to leave them. The horses are quite used to this style of "putting-up"; no policeman interferes, and the animals stand perfectly quiet until their owners are ready to drive away. I was much struck by the clean, orderly, Christian-like appearance, inside and out, of an Indian church at Vermont. The falls of Montmorenci, which are close by this village, would be considered a big thing in England, though on this continent of many waters they are of no great account. I was, nevertheless, much charmed with them.

Returning to Quebec, which is a fine city of 75,000 inhabitants, and the parent city of the Dominion, I was much pleased with its general appearance. Its capture from the French by the heroic General Wolfe in 1759 is one of the familiar stories in English history. At that time the whole population of Canada, exclusive of Indians, was no larger than the present population of the city. From the lofty eminence on which the upper part is built a magnificent view is obtained. In this upper part are churches, convents, schools, hotels, and high-class residences. The lower portion of the city is distinctly old-world, with irregular streets and odd architecture, such as are to be seen but in few places on the Western Continent. The docks are commodious, admitting the largest vessels. The lumber trade seems to be the chief industry, the vast numbers of enormous logs floating about everywhere being quite a feature of the river scenery. It gives employment to a great number of people. Those who are familiar with the timber docks at Liverpool can in some degree realise the scene.

We left Quebec by the Canadian Pacific Railway on our long journey westward. The line skirts the magnificent River St. Lawrence, and the land upon the side of the track, as I was informed, is settled upon the 90-acre system—i.e., three acres frontage and 30 acres back. They are, it must be remembered, old settlements, wholly unlike those which awaited us in Manitoba and the great North-West. As I have stated, the French element is very prominent in the Quebec province, but it was easily to be observed that all the inhabitants, French or not, were comfortable, and apparently contented with their lot. I regret that I was not able to see more of this province. As we journeyed towards Montreal, which is 172 miles from Quebec, I observed that the land is generally flat, with split wood fences dividing the farms, and that the system of culture pursued is much the same as that I observed round Vermont. The wooden and painted houses and highly ornamented churches give the villages a novel and interesting appearance to strangers. The town of Three Rivers, at the confluence of the St. Lawrence and the St. Maurice, which we passed in the evening, is a fair sample of these Anglo-French villages.

We arrived at Montreal about 9 p.m., and secured comfortable

quarters at the Windsor Hotel. The electric lights gave this fine place a somewhat weird appearance. Montreal is a city of 220,000 inhabitants, and the chief commercial centre of the Dominion. The large ocean-going steamers of the Allan Line make this their terminus; and many others also here receive and distribute their passengers and cargoes. There is direct access by railway to all parts of the Dominion, to New York, Chicago, St. Paul, and other centres in the United States; and, indeed, Montreal may be regarded as one of the most important cities on the North American Continent. Its streets are wide, long, and straight, planted with trees. At the time of our visit these trees had not cast a leaf, and their effect, added to the well-kept lawns in the better parts of the city, gave it a very attractive appearance. Like Quebec, Montreal has a "Mountain," and from its summit an excellent bird's-eye view of the pretty, busy, and varied scene may be obtained, with the mighty St. Lawrence rolling along at its base. Montreal shares with Quebec the advantages of the great lumber trade, but is less dependent upon it. I visited the market, where I saw large waggon loads of tomatoes, thrown loose in waggons for sale; and also fine samples of fruit of all kinds, and potatoes. I was struck with the healthiness and freshness of the foliage in and around Montreal; it seemed as though no gales or early frosts had disturbed their placid growth, no faded or damaged leaves being visible.



PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS, OTTAWA.

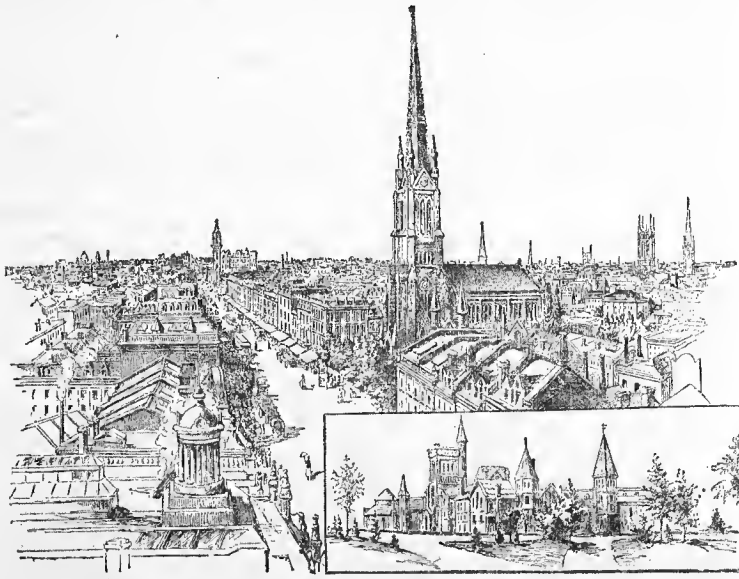
Still continuing our journey by the Canadian Pacific line, we in due time arrived at Ottawa, on the Ottawa River. This city is the capital of the Dominion and the seat of government, and has a population of 40,000. Its situation is elevated, and commands a wide expanse of the Ottawa River and surrounding district. At the Depart-

ment of Agriculture, adjacent to Parliament Buildings, which are a fine display of architecture, the delegates were courteously and kindly received by the Honourable John Carling, Minister of Agriculture, an able and businesslike man, who congratulated us on our safe arrival, and gave us a sketch of the arrangements made for our journey across the prairies, the Rocky Mountains, and still further west to British Columbia, on the Pacific Coast. The first item in the programme was a drive out to the Government farm near Ottawa. This farm is under the management of Professor Saunders, a very able man, and fully qualified for the onerous post he fills. He is assisted by able Professors of Botany, Chemistry, &c., and by a staff of trained workmen in all branches of farm and nursery work. Here are tested and tried, practically, in the open, selected grains of all kinds, and when approved the seed is sent out free in 3-lb. parcels to all farmers who apply for them. Fruit trees of approved kinds are also grown and distributed, from vines down to currants and gooseberries. Of these there is a great variety. All farmers in the Dominion can obtain stock from this valuable institution. Indian corn is also grown in variety, with the object of ascertaining the best kinds for the various districts in the Dominion; grasses also are treated in like manner, as are forest trees for planting purposes. Cattle feeding and poultry rearing are also experimentally practised. The raising of new kinds of potatoes from seeds is another important part of the experimental work done here, as new varieties, of approved merit, are necessary to replace the older and worn-out kinds as they contract disease or deteriorate in quality. This latter work is most important, for there is not a province that I visited in the whole Dominion in which this kind of vegetable is not grown to a large extent; but, to my surprise, the growth consists chiefly of only two kinds—the Early Rose and the Beauty of Hebron. We scarcely had a meal during our visit at which potatoes in some form were not served. From the Ottawa experimental farm we returned to Russell House Hotel, where we dined, and where Mr. G. H. Campbell, of Winnipeg, joined the delegates as guide in their travels.

From Ottawa we made all haste to be in time for the great Agricultural Exhibition at Toronto. On Tuesday, the 19th, we visited this show, held in the Exhibition grounds. We found some excellent pure bred shorthorn cattle and Herefords, some excellent polled Angus or Aberdeen cattle, fit for any show in the world; shire horses, some of superior merit, and Clydesdales in greater numbers, these forming a contrast to the native light horses we had observed doing the work both on and off the land. There were some good driving horses, also a competition for high jumping, one particular animal doing something extraordinary in this way. On Wednesday we again visited the show, and were introduced to some prominent citizens and farmers whom we afterwards again met. There was an excellent collection of self-binding, mowing, and reaping machines; some string binders, cutting as much as seven feet wide—in fact, the whole machinery for dealing with hay and grain was very commendable for utility, lightness, and strength. The Canadian or "Oliver" plough is made up in all forms,



as a kind of swing, single and twin, sulky or riding plough. One particular implement I noticed was a revolving spade roller, which acts on ploughed land like an improved acme harrow. This appeared to me as likely to prove a very useful implement for English agriculture. It is a new invention in Canada. The exhibition of fruit, especially grapes and peaches grown in the open, was something that the Canadians might well be proud of, for in quantity, quality, and variety, it formed a sight not to be easily forgotten. The vegetables and roots were alike a grand collection, not easily to be matched anywhere. Altogether this Exhibition was a show the Canadians may claim every credit for. A feature that I particularly observed was the orderly way in which the crowds departed, without a sign of intemperance. This commendable fact, coupled with the absence of beggars, was a most noticeable thing throughout our journey amongst all Canadian crowds.



TORONTO.

Toronto is a fine city, with wide streets and good buildings, and has a population of 172,000. It is the largest city in the Province of Ontario, and situated on Lake Ontario, and possesses many important manufactories. The Province of Ontario is a fine agricultural province, having an area of 182,000 square miles, and contains a population of about 2,000,000. This province grows almost every variety of grain, vegetables, and fruit in the greatest perfection. The soil was originally all covered with timber, the early settlers having had to clear their farms out of the forest, or, in other words, rid out the timber, stumps and all, to clear the land. This province attracted the early settlers, and, consequently, there are more large cities here than in any other of

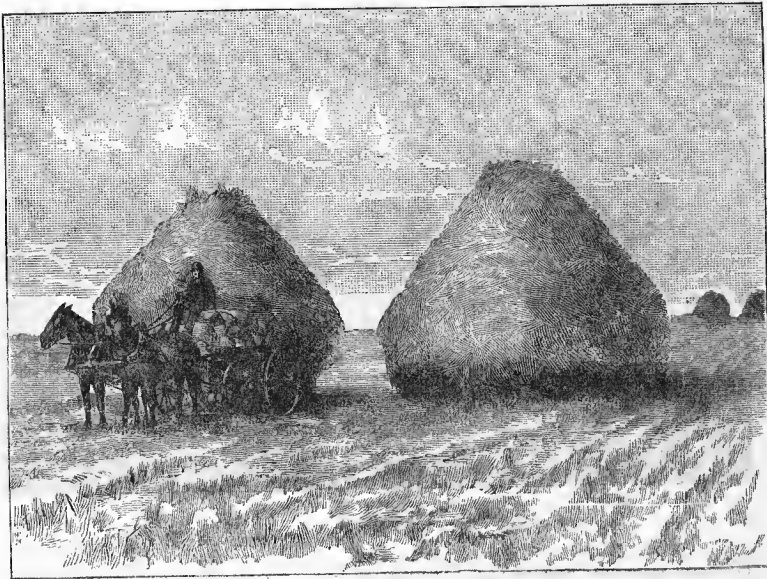
the provinces, including such as Ottawa, Hamilton, London, Kingston, Brantford, and Guelph, all of which contain manufactories of various kinds, especially agricultural implements. We visited the Osborne Manufactory at Brantford, where some thousands of mowers and self-binders are turned out annually to all parts—in fact, I may say that the manufacturing towns in Ontario are the great workshops for the Dominion. I may, later on, again refer to the agricultural features of Ontario; but for the present the cry is “westward.”

We left Toronto on Wednesday, September 17th, on the Grand Trunk Railway for North Bay; then, transferring to the Canadian Pacific, we proceeded for some hundred of miles through the primeval forest of timber and some scrub, mixed with tall charred tree stumps, showing the remnants of forest fires which sometimes sweep all before them. These natural forests are interspersed along this railway with creeks, rivers, and lakes containing fish in abundance. Rivers and creeks are bridged over with wooden-built bridges. All went well with our train until we arrived at the head of Lake Superior, where the recent rains had caused a slip of limestone to fall across the rail-road track, which brought our train to a standstill for a short time. A breakdown gang soon arrived and cleared the track, and all went well. We halted at a station where 150 cattle were being fed and watered in yards. These cattle, I was informed, were on their way to Montreal for the British Market, and were similar to those I had sometimes seen in the Stanley Cattle Market, Liverpool. Our next arrival was at Port Arthur, which, situated on an arm of Lake Superior, has docks, and is a point whence steamers ply to various points on the Great Lakes. It has a population of some 5,000 people, grain elevators, hotels, &c., &c., and is assured of a large and increasing trade in grain, coal, and other commodities. We next passed some fine scenery, one particular huge mountain of Basaltic rock, called the Sleeping Giant, strikes the beholder with its grandeur and immensity. On we travelled to Fort William, a Hudson Bay Company's settlement of 100 years old. Near this spot are said to be some of the richest silver mines in the world, one of which, the Shunahweachu, is largely owned by people residing in Liverpool. From Fort William to Winnipeg the scenery is wild, and broken with rapid rivers and lakes. A few miles from the former place are the Kakabeka Falls, said to be higher than Niagara. Westward the train proceeded until the Lake of the Woods was passed, with its saw mills and lumber trade, and still on and on through wild scenery until at last, when nearing Winnipeg, the clear open prairie—a treeless plain—revealed itself to the eye. A wide river was crossed, and our train slowed into the Canadian Pacific Railway Station, Winnipeg, the capital of Manitoba.

Winnipeg is 700 feet above the sea level, has a population of 28,000 people (twenty years ago the population was only some 215), and is a fine city, situated at the junction of the Red and the Assiniboine Rivers, both of which are navigable, has imposing buildings, wide streets, which appear to stretch miles, electric lighted, and good railway accommodation to every point. Already ten lines of railway centre in

Winnipeg, and these lines are fast throwing out branches. The lines west of Winnipeg, and tributary to it, aggregate 2,800 miles, where only ten years ago there was not a single mile in operation. Winnipeg appears destined to become one of the greatest commercial centres on the American Continent. I am convinced of this fact when I try to realise the future of Manitoba and the great North-Western territories. This great plain of prairie land, stretches from Winnipeg to Calgary, or near to the far-famed Rocky Mountains, a distance well on to 1,000 miles, through which the Canadian Pacific Railway track runs. All along this line of railway are agricultural towns and stations springing up. At many of these, such as Brandon, Regina, Calgary, &c., there are grain elevators to receive the grain as soon as it is threshed from the fields or stacks; also stores of every kind, and hotels and boarding houses, mostly built of wood. My readers will please remember 1,000 miles is a long way, and I have only mentioned three towns as illustrating quite a number of others, such as Portage-la-Prairie, a town of 3,000 inhabitants, and situated on the Assiniboine River, with grain elevators, flour mills, stores, &c. From Regina a branch railway runs north-west for 180 miles towards Prince Albert. Amongst the other towns are Rapid City, Minnedosa, Medicine Hat, Wolseley, Indian Head, &c., all on lines of railway. At Indian Head is situated another Government experimental farm, which is presided over by Mr. McCoy, a thoroughly practical man, well fitted for his post. In the same neighbourhood are the great Bell Farm and the Lord Brassey Farm, with their studs of horses and thousands of acres of land. All these places I visited: and when I tell my readers that ten years ago the sites of nearly all of them were unbroken, wild, prairie land, without a sign of civilization, they may begin to form some idea of the thousands upon thousands of acres of this same kind of prairie land still untouched in Manitoba and the North-West territories, and yet these regions are now beginning to export grain to the markets of the globe. Therefore, I feel that I am doing scant justice to this great plain, stretching from Winnipeg to Calgary, when I say, that it is now only beginning to be realised that here will be the great wheat-growing district, the granary of Canada. But it is not only grain that is grown here; I was driven over fully a thousand miles in light conveyances, diverging from some of the towns mentioned, and in my travels found potatoes everywhere, grown by all classes of settlers, from the large farms like Sir Donald Smith's, near Winnipeg, and those of Sir John Lyster Kaye, which are ten in number, of about 10,000 acres each, to the 160-acre homestead of the ordinary settler. The Lyster Kaye farms, I may remark, are now controlled by an English Company, whose head manager is Mr. Thomas Stone, late a Lancashire farmer, well known here in the North. On Sunday, September 21st, when at Winnipeg, we went to the Protestant Church, which was just like being in England. I could scarcely realise that I was so far from home. On Monday, the 22nd, we visited the Industrial schools. All over the Dominion, education is more or less free, with a system of teachers and teaching as perfect as can be

devised. The equality and independence of character observable in the average Canadian appears to have its beginning in these free schools. The scholars all looked clean and healthy, and full of promise for making good men and women. This same day, in company with others, I was presented to Lieutenant-Governor Schultz and Mrs. Schultz, who expressed a desire to see Canada peopled by the English-speaking races. In the afternoon we drove out west from Winnipeg. Here vegetables of all kinds—celery, parsnips, beets, onions, cauliflower, potatoes—all looked fine, including some tall Indian corn, which appeared as if touched with frost. One gentleman told me he did not use manure, as it made weeds grow. In the evening I was an invited guest to a banquet given in honour of the Minister of Public Works of the Dominion, and was gratified with the enthusiastic harmony of all; the proceedings, as on all public occasions in Canada, terminated with “God Save the Queen” and “Auld Lang Syne.”



WHEAT STACKS, MANITOBA.

On Wednesday I visited the district of Glenborough, going by rail. There I saw wheat growing and harvesting operations going on in all directions and in all stages, from cutting with self-binders to the steam threshing machine. Wheat! wheat! stacks! stacks! Everyone busy at this work; and no preparations for rain, no stack sheets and no thatching being required, as there was no rain or sign of rain, but bright, clear weather right along. Wheat succeeding wheat is grown for years together, with one ploughing to grow each crop. I went to visit some Scotch crofters, and all said they were glad they had come

to Manitoba. They were on quarter sections of 160 acres each; now, or soon, would be owners of their own land and out of debt—and their stock, consisting of working bullocks, cattle, pigs, poultry, &c., tended to verify what they said. There were about thirty families settled in the locality, having been, as I was led to believe, assisted by the British Government some two years ago to come out. From Glenborough to Wawanesa we proceeded through a wheat-growing country, and again we saw stacks of wheat in great profusion, and threshing machines doing 1,500 bushels and upwards per day. Most of the land is here taken up, all owning their farms, and being very happy in their wooden-built homes. A farmer complained that one firm only put up all the corn elevators, and consequently had mostly their own price in taking the wheat from the farmers. There are farmers about this district who leave their land in fallow one year out of four or five. On Friday, September 26th, we visited Mr. Sandison's great farm near Brandon.



HARVESTING AT SANDISON'S FARM, BRANDON.

He had some 40 horses and 60 men at work in gathering his 1,500 odd acres of wheat and 500 acres of oats; carting, threshing, and taking grain to the elevators; ploughing for next year's crop, all in full swing, and Mr. Sandison superintending in his "buggy." He has twelve self-binders to cut his harvest. All this big operation in wheat growing has been got together by this one man in less than seven years. I saw a good many acres of this wheat. I was driven over the stubble between the shocks, and found the whole all a good crop, although it was the sixth on the same land in succession, without either rest or manure. Mr. Sandison owns his land and manages it himself. His crop this year will leave him a good profit, which he well deserves.

The Government have an experimental farm at Brandon, with an able man at its head, Mr. Bedford here doing much the same kind of efficient work as is done at Ottawa. It was a pleasure to see the good work in progress to benefit the agriculture of this province, particularly in grasses, native and artificial; also corn, wheat, barley, and oats, all of which are here tried in great variety and accurately reported upon. Altogether the driving in "rigs" around Brandon and Glenborough revealed a sight in wheat growing not easy for British agriculturists to realise, and once seen never to be forgotten.

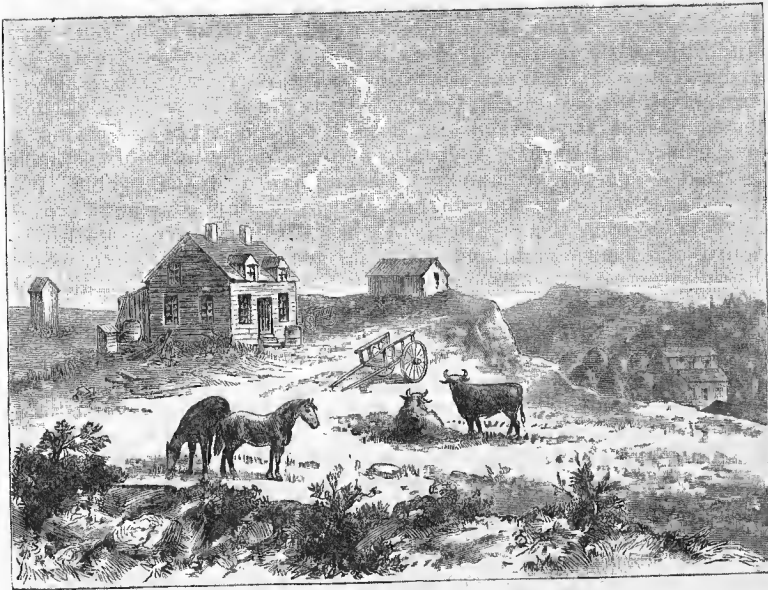
From Brandon to Rapid City we found more wheat districts of like character. I could count from the horse carriage 100 wheat stacks at a time, put up in sets of four, for convenience of threshing. Straw is burnt to clear the land for next year's crop of wheat. As we neared Rapid City, which is on the Little Saskatchewan River, there was more scrub or small timber. This is mostly the case on and about the courses of rivers. There is at Rapid City a corn elevator, a flour mill, and a woollen mill supplied with native wool. The Red Fife wheat grown here is quite as good as that known in the British markets as the best Duluth. I left this place for Minnedosa by rail. Minnedosa is a pretty city at the head of a valley of the above-mentioned river, and I found the settlers there happy and contented on their land. On September 28th I left by rail for Saltcoats. On arriving there I drove out to a Mr. Moore, who came from Northumberland, England, and had been there a farm bailiff. He has his place in nice order, including his stacks, buildings, garden, house, &c., and is quite content with his lot, the farm being his own. I then visited the Messrs. Kensington's place. They have acquired 15 sections, or 10,000 acres, at about \$3½ per acre, and are busy putting up large buildings, house, cow houses, stables, &c.—all wood—at a cost of about £1,000 sterling, intending to make this estate into a large cattle ranche. I saw some very useful shorthorn cattle as a commencement of this ranching farm. Next I visited a Mr. Knott, a small settler from Norfolk, England, who came out two years ago, and has now 27 acres of fair grain. His family consists of four children, the eldest about 12 years, and he is without help. He has cut all his prairie hay (25 tons), and cut and stacked all his 27 acres of grain. He was a gardener, has some nice vegetables, and after his two years' toil, is quite content, and looking forward to a prosperous future. At Saltcoats a creamery and butter factory has been established. The farmers who take their cream to this factory are all shareholders, and are supplied with registered cans which shew the quantity of cream in inches, and they are paid according to this registered standard. We visited a Mr. Ferguson, who is a good sample of a settler in this neighbourhood. He is quite content with his lot. His potatoes are a thick, good crop, as also are his swedes. •

On September 29th we visited Binscarth pedigree stock farm, which was commenced in 1882. It is 4,000 acres in extent. We saw some very nice pedigree shorthorn cattle in fine fresh condition, living on nothing but prairie grass, including some very pretty yearlings, both heifers and bulls, all good, two exceptionally so. Altogether we

saw about 80 pure bred pedigree shorthorns intended for sale. The introduction of such animals must be an enormous benefit to this region. There is a large wooden barn built against the slope of the hill used as a cow house underneath and as a barn overhead. Altogether it is a good homesteading. From Binscarth we the next day visited the Birtle Agricultural Show with the Mayor (an old settler). In this neighbourhood there are a large number of British settlers. The exhibition of grade or native cattle, horses, and sheep; also roots, particularly potatoes; and needle and fancy work, were interesting examples of what 10 years of pioneer life can do in Canada. From this show we drove to Major Wilkinson's farm of 2,000 acres, which is situated on the edge of a pretty creek or valley. There are 220 acres of crop, and 2½ years ago there were only 50. A good crop of wheat was in progress of carting to the thresher. We afterwards attended a conversazione at the Town Hall of Birtle, presided over by the Mayor, a straight and kind-hearted Canadian, who, with great ability, drew from the farmers present some interesting facts as to how well they had succeeded since their settling in the neighbourhood. This interesting ceremony terminated with singing "God Save the Queen" in a very hearty and loyal manner.

October 1st brought us to the district of Neepawa, a good grain growing region. The land is a little more rolling, with some scrub in the uncleared portions. The settlers here all seemed content. One farmer told me he came here to please his sons, and was quite satisfied. He did not think the district about Neepawa suffered from summer frosts, like some of the wheat-growing districts in Manitoba. I learned there that one farmer had had his stacks destroyed by fire during the operation of threshing with a steam thresher. I was informed he was not insured against loss. I thought this a good district as I was being driven through. On October 2nd, at Portage-la-Prairie, I was driven by Mr. Sorby some 17 miles through a wheat-growing level plain to his farm called "The Hermitage." This farm of two sections, or 1,280 acres, had 870 acres of grain, some threshed, and all stacked. Mr. Sorby called himself a "wheat manufacturer," and said he had only two busy months out of twelve—one to sow his land, as soon as the breaking up of the winter frost allowed him to begin grain sowing; the other to cut his harvest and thresh, and then plough for next year's crop. Mr. Sorby has six string-binders which were in good repair, and neatly stowed away in a wooden shed ready for next year's use. He pushes ahead to get all his land ploughed in the autumn for next year's crop with the help of hired teams. He says he has no difficulty in getting all ploughed before the winter sets in, when no ploughing can be done, the land being usually frozen to a depth of from two to three feet, and covered with fine snow, like frozen dew, dry and hard. When this period is reached the Manitobans begin to use sleighs instead of wheeled vehicles. This continues until spring, when the snow is evaporated and absorbed, and as soon as the surface of the land is free from frost two or three inches deep, the farmers begin to sow their wheat. All with them is high pressure until this is completed. Having little or no autumn sown wheat, this spring sown grain is their staple crop. Then follows the sowing of

what little is grown of barley, oats, peas, potatoes, roots, &c. Only little breadth of artificial grasses is sown. These farmers get their hay from prairie grass, which grows on low, damp places, called sloughs or slews. This hay harvest is done mostly before the grain is ready; then all is hurry until the grain is gathered. I feel I must here say that the average Britisher or Englishman does not understand the Canadian winters. The thermometer frequently going below zero gives him a little terror, as this very seldom takes place in England, even in the most severe winters. The atmosphere in Canada is, however, so clear and dry that I was told over and over again by settlers from England they did not feel the cold any more than in England. One lady from Devonshire, England, told me she had lately spent one winter in her old home and there felt the cold more than in Canada, the air was so damp. No doubt there are times, for a few days, when care is required not to be "scientifically frozen" (as I have heard it described), but this is very rare, and happens only to careless and benighted people. The Canadians do not fear their winter; I should not do so, nor do I see very much for others to fear. Of course I did see one or two cases of persons damaged by being frost bitten, but these instances were extreme ones, through unavoidable exposure. It is usually bright and clear weather, June being their rainy month.



A FARM HOUSE IN THE NORTH WEST TERRITORY  
(Drawn by Colonel Fane.)

As we travelled on by rail from Regina we observed one curious reminder of the life that used to throng these vast plains. Along the



sides of the railway are piles of buffalo bones, gathered by the Indians, the last remnants of the mighty herds of Bison, which, not so very many years ago, grazed over these long stretches of country.

Our next halting place was Prince Albert, where we arrived on Sunday, October 5th. At this place the delegates were welcomed by the Mayor, and carriages were provided for their use to see the city and its surroundings. Prince Albert is some 200 miles north-west of Regina, and well situated on the Saskatchewan River, which is still navigable. We saw several timber rafts, and saw-mills on the river banks. A railway is projected running west from this point to Edmonton. The town has a good appearance, as it is built on rolling land, sloping gradually to the river. We called upon several farmers in this neighbourhood; they were very pleased, especially a Mr. Flaxton, to shew us their farms, and all had good grain and vegetables. They all appeared thoroughly happy and content. On my remarking that the land, where not under cultivation, was uneven and scrubby, I was told that further back from the river there is fine prairie land in great quantity ready for settlers. I was sorry that I had not time to see more of this town and district; for there was much that was new and interesting, with everything, as the Americans say, apparently on the up-grade. I understand that the Hudson's Bay Company have lands in the district, which are, no doubt, for sale. Returning to Regina, our train stopped at Duck Lake. At Mr. Mitchell's cattle ranche, we were driven some miles out to see the land and stock. We found plenty of water and prairie grass, which is stronger grown than about Regina. There are at Duck Lake wooden houses erected, and others in course of construction, forming a considerable settlement. Here also a company, I was informed, hold an extensive portion of land for sale, and have a resident agent. We were shewn some samples of grain, which was of good quality, grown a few miles from this location. At Saskatoon we were again interviewed, and shown grain and vegetables grown near this place, where the railway crosses the Saskatchewan River the products being all very good.

All is now open prairie land until Regina, the capital of Assiniboia, is again reached. It might well be called the City of the Plains, the surroundings being so bare and open. The city has a population of some 3,000, is a distributing point, has good railway accommodation, and the Executive Council of the North-West territories meet there. The North-West mounted police, numbering 1,000 men, have their headquarters at Regina. They look over the Indians and keep order in the country between Manitoba and the Rocky Mountains. Regina sends a Member to the Dominion Parliament, and has a Mayor and Corporation, wide streets, schools, churches, and hotels, most of which are built of wood. On Tuesday, 7th of October, we visited the Regina Agricultural Show of roots, grain, &c., with needlework, all of which were nice exhibits. I was sorry we could not remain to see the stock on the next day, as, no doubt, mixed farming with stock will increase. Here we had rain, which interfered with our seeing more of this district.

After we left Regina the train next stopped at Medicine Hat, on

the Saskatchewan River. Here we visited a show of roots and grain, the potatoes being extra good and very large. I may mention that I have for years noticed that a climate with a soil that will grow roots, particularly potatoes, and wheat well, is always a fruitful and healthy place for man. Here we found a well-appointed hospital, a mounted police station, coal mines not far away, a railway depot with workshops, and several churches, all of which show its progress. At Medicine Hat we were joined by Mr. Thomas Stone, whom I have before mentioned as manager of the Sir John Lyster Kaye's farms. It was a pleasure, as we passed through these farms by rail, to hear from Mr. Stone how he has now arranged the 10 farms of about 10,000 acres to each farm, with a bailiff over each, growing grain and fodder to enable each farm to meet its own wants. The farms are chiefly intended for the breeding of horses, cattle, and sheep. A number of breeding mares and their foals, mostly to Clydesdale sires, were rounded up for us to see these young horses, which well evidence the stamp of their imported sires. Mr. Stone's arrangement of these farms, as told to me, appeared very business-like. He has his self-binders and other implements cleaned and repaired at the close of harvest, and put away in readiness for the next year, an example which should be copied by all who aim at expeditious and economical working. This is a big business, and it is not easy to reckon up as to profit or loss (on my return journey there had been a fire at one of these farms).

On October 9th we arrived at the charming agricultural and ranching centre Calgary, situated on the Bow River, overlooked in the distance by the far-famed white-peaked Rocky Mountains. This city is the capital of Alberta, has coal and mining industries near, a large timber trade, is a centre for the mounted police, also for the Hudson Bay Company, and is in the middle of the great ranching prairie land east of the Rocky Mountains, where there are thousands of cattle, besides horses. We had a drive over some of this land from Calgary to Mr. Hull's farm, called Government Farm. He has a large business as a cattle dealer, butcher, and farmer, growing grain and roots for his stock on the low-lying lands of this farm. A large horse machine was at work threshing a fair lot of oats, but they had been a little heated in the stack. 120 head of cattle were rounded up by Mr. Hull on horseback for our party to see. They proved a nice bunch of oxen on clear prairie land, miles in extent. Next day, Friday, 10th of October, we drove with the police team, Mr. Alexander and Mr. Stone joining our party, through the ranching country south of Calgary, through Pine Creek, on to McPherson's, a large horse-breeding ranch. I understood that the foals run with their dams all through the winter and are not weaned. In the stackyard was a large quantity of prairie hay, mostly used for saddle horses and stallions during the winter months, but some is given in severe weather to the breeding and young horses out on the open prairie. We were unfortunate in not finding Mr. McPherson at home. However, we made the best of it, and remained all night, our good driver and team taking us back the next morning through another ranching country, where we saw some well-bred stallions which had

been in use on the ranch. Here we were again unfortunate, the manager having been taken ill, and sent this day to the hospital, where he died. From this "ranch home," with its good loose boxes and yards, we went on through prairie land, some fenced, but more not, with an occasional settler's home. We then reached Calgary, having driven some 100 miles in the two days. All along this drive we came across cattle of various breeds belonging to big ranching companies, who own some thousands of cattle, horses, and sheep in this district. Calgary citizens are proud of their city, and have great hopes for its future.

On Sunday, October 12th, at 2:30 a.m., we left Calgary, arriving at Banff for breakfast. The Canadian Pacific Railway Hotel at Banff is situated amid charming scenery, on the valley of the Bow River, with cascades, pine trees, and mountains vieing with each other in height and vastness. There are natural hot sulphur water springs here, which are utilised as the best natural warm baths I ever used or saw. Banff for charming scenery is a place not to be forgotten, with its delightful winding valley and hillside drives through its National Park and ever-varied scenery. We again joined our train, proceeding on through the far-famed, mighty, overawing Rocky Mountains, whose grand range of scenery, and the effect produced on the beholder, I will not attempt to describe. On and on we passed over marvellous wooden bridges, and at last along a winding gorge, through which the Fraser River threads its course westward. After leaving Banff we passed along this marvellous engineering feat, the Canadian Pacific Railway, for a distance of 500 miles, along mountain sides, over ravines and rushing waters, one endless panorama of wild and glorious scenery, until we arrived at Hope, the head of navigation on the Fraser River, which runs into the Pacific. The climate and vegetation here savours of home. Still on the Canadian Pacific Railway, we skirted the valley of the Fraser River, until once more along a tidal stream the journey to New Westminster was accomplished, and we entered one of the most flourishing seaports of British Columbia.

New Westminster has a population of 5,000, is well situated on the north side of the Fraser River, and is one of the foremost towns in this province. Here we found street-making and building actively going on. There are numerous canneries for preserving salmon, several of which we visited, and all were doing an enormous trade in the season. There are many fine buildings, including the Agricultural Hall, in Queen's Park. Large saw-mills are a distinct feature. In these mills big logs are picked up from rafts in the river, passed through perfect machinery, and, like well-regulated straws, are cut into the required dimensions for home and export trade to China, Australia, &c. Regular steamers from this port also ply south to Victoria. On Wednesday, October 15th, we visited the agricultural lands bordering on the Fraser River, some of which are called delta lands, at Ladnor's Landing. Here the soil is of rich quality, growing very fine mangolds, and particularly fine white oats, weighing 44 lbs. to the bushel, rye, and fruit. Here we had rain, and it seemed very much like being in the marshy lands of Britain, with dykes to take the water into the river. On Mr. Hutchinson's fruit farm we saw young apple and

other fruit trees nicely planted in a rich soil, with good mangolds and potatoes growing between the rows of trees, all looking healthy and like proving a success.

On Thursday we drove through a grand avenue cut out of the primeval forest, which is in all stages of decay and vigorous life, with pines and cedars of immense size. It seemed to us woeful to see this fine timber being cut for fuel. On we went for miles through this evergreen forest, until we arrived at Vancouver City, which is a seaport and the terminus of the railway, and certainly one of the greatest marvels of growth in the civilised world. Here are some 15,000 people, where in 1886 was a forest. It is finely situated on Burrard Inlet, has fine scenery of mountain and forest. Stanley Park (named after Lord Stanley, the present Governor-General of Canada, and presumptive heir of Knowsley), is a notable instance, with its big pine and cedar trees. It is 1,000 acres in extent, and belongs to the city. There are extensive wharves, warehouses, churches, hotels, lumber mills, fish canning establishments, and electric lighted streets. There is a regular service of steamships to China, Japan, Victoria, San Francisco, Alaska, and Puget Sound Ports. There is an Indian village close by. The little agricultural land here, as in most parts of British Columbia, is of good quality, and appears well suited for small farmers and gardeners, who can manage spade work, and go in for fruit, dairy, and poultry farming. There are not many stretches of prairie land like Manitoba suitable for grain farmers, though roots and grain both grow well in this climate and soil, as well as fruits. I did hear of some prairie land in what is called the Okanagan Valley, where there had been sent and used some 20 tons of string this year to tie up the grain grown in this said valley. I hear that new railway lines are to be built, or are in course of construction, to connect the valley with the existing system. No doubt there are yet more such fertile belts of land, not much known, in this south-west portion of British Columbia, with its English climate. We visited Lulu Island, where good fruit and vegetables grow well in a rich soil. The whole island is flat and not much above sea level.

On Friday, October 17th, we left Vancouver, on board the s.s. "Cutch" to visit some collieries at Nanaimo. On our passage, three miles off Nanaimo, about 6 p.m., when it was dark and raining, a steam tug, called the "Mogul," came into collision with the "Cutch," damaging her bulwarks, and causing a little alarm on board. She soon, however, proceeded on to Nanaimo, and we had the satisfaction of seeing how fast an engine of 150 horse power wound up coals, the production of 120 men, in a mine 600 feet deep. The coals were brought up regularly and fast (all machinery going nicely). Chinamen, with torchlights attached to their hats, were doing efficiently all the handling at the top of the shaft. The next morning, Saturday, we left Nanaimo by rail, through hills, valleys, and mountains, mostly covered with timber, until we neared Victoria, where farms and farm lands appear on sites which evidently, like Ontario, had been cleared of timber.

Victoria, the capital of British Columbia, is situated on the south

point of Vancouver Island, has a population of 15,000, is the most English city on the Pacific seaboard, and were it not for its straight wide streets, electric lighted, electric cars running into the suburbs, and China-town, with its Chinese Joss House, theatres, shops, and Chinamen with their opium, we might well have imagined that we were at some naval port at home, climate and all included. I was driven about the suburbs, and our party were presented to Lieutenant-Governor Nelson. We visited the Museum and other places of interest with the Mayor and other kind citizens. On Sunday I was driven a good many miles into the country. Here are forests with uncleared stumps in plenty, and some cleared farm land, with fruit in abundance, and grain all harvested, leaving a clean stubble observable on this land. Mr. Bryant, a farmer, showed our party samples of his threshed wheat and barley, both of which appeared like good English grain. We saw more fruit, and some grapes outside, with a few hops, which appeared to me as in other parts of this province, well fitted for growing by small farmers like peasant proprietors. Here is good soil, healthy climate, and good wages, with room for capital and labour. On Monday we were to have sailed to Vancouver City, but the steamer did not start this day, and we enjoyed a sample of a straight downpour of rain, which continued till 4 a.m.

On Tuesday, the steamer departed for Vancouver, and landed us safely. We then commenced our return journey, by the Canadian Pacific Railway, in our sleeper. Arrived at New Westminster, we got on board the "Delaware," and sailed up to Mission on the Fraser River, where a bridge is in course of construction to form a connection with Washington territory in the United States. We landed near Chiliwack, where the Mayor provided "rigs," and drove us through Sumas Valley. Here were farms with abundance of fine apple trees; the higher plots being marshy, prairie land suitable for cattle grazing. The grass was not making the grade kind of stock very fat. On Thursday Mayor Kitchen again took us to see some grain, fruit, &c., which had been exhibited at the Agricultural Grounds, all of which were good. The roadsides in this district were carpeted with wild white clover (natural). We drove on through forests and farms, arriving at an Indian Village called Popcum, where there is a tributary to the Fraser, which is utilised for working the machinery of large lumber mills. Here we were paddled by Indians in their canoes across the down stream of the Fraser, landing about two miles from the Government Farm at Agassiz, where Mr. Sharp, the Manager, was busy having some big trees split up by dynamite, to clear the way to carry out the work of experimenting in agriculture for the Province of British Columbia. Here fruit and forest trees were planted on the cleared portions. The soil was clean and rich. Two miles from this place we passed a nice farm, which showed good roots, clover, and some good young cattle, and there was an educated Englishman spreading manure out of a farm waggon. He smiled and looked content. At Agassiz we again joined our sleeping car, and once more passed over the never-to-be-forgotten Rockies. The glaciers and snow-topped mountains towered above us, whilst the innumerable rivulets were

bidding us a bright adieu as they tumbled into the gorges below. So ended Friday, in a sleeping car on the Canadian Pacific Railway. On Saturday we passed through Calgary eastward. We halted a little at Medicine Hat, and then eastward still to Wolseley. Here our sleeper being detached, Senator Purley soon procured rigs to convey us to see some farming lands. We called upon Mr. Finlay, who had been ten years in a wholesale house in London. He came here seven years ago, has some grain which was damaged by hailstorm, 10 milk cows, 14 young cattle, and one yoke of oxen. This free life pleases him, and he would not go back, though frost had damaged his grain to some extent. We also called upon Mr. Gibson, who left Ayrshire seven years ago. He has a homestead, having built his own house and buildings, is quite satisfied with the place, and is expecting to get homesteads for his two sons. At Moffat, near here, we called on Mr. Kinder, who was at church, but Mrs. Kinder said they liked the place well enough, only there was a scarcity of female help. I was informed that crops here had suffered from frost, with hailstorms. On Monday we arrived at Moosomin, and, during a long drive with Mr. Neff, called upon about seven different farmers—wheat growers—who were generally satisfied. One, who came from Staffordshire seven years ago, and was helping his neighbour to thresh, said he was quite satisfied with his seven years' experience, although frost had done damage to his wheat occasionally, and it was pretty cold in winter. Mr. Neff, M.P.P., is himself a large farmer, growing wheat on his two or three sections of land, most of which I saw. There were indications of frost having done some damage about Moosomin, which is a growing agricultural centre with a population of 2,000 inhabitants, and has a mayor, schools, hotels, and also stores of various kinds.

We arrived at Winnipeg on Tuesday afternoon; on Wednesday we went on a branch railway to Stonewall, where large limestone quarries are being worked. We visited Mr. Jackson, who kindly took us over his farm in all its stages, from clearing the scrub or small timber to the land from which several crops of wheat had been taken. His red Fife wheat in stacks was of good quality. He had cleared his land, got his own house built thereon, and is a smart man of business, and looked happy.

I will here mention that when at Russell I paid a hurried visit to one of Dr. Barnardo's homes and farm. The vegetables were very fine, the buildings good, and a large dairy of cows is here kept, the inmates gathered from the ranks of the London street arabs, doing the work. A Dane manages the dairy, where a steam engine is being used and good butter made. The wards in the home for inmates were clean and comfortable, and all the officials were attentive and ready to give all information asked by the delegates during the short visit to this institution. I was led to understand that farmers, under a written agreement of some kind, get the inmates of these homes to become hired servants. Forms of this agreement can be had on application at the home.

From Winnipeg we went south into the States, visiting the big flour mills on the Mississippi at Minneapolis, which are said to be the

largest in the world. Here I was told their best wheat came from Manitoba. Wheat arrives loose on the railway cars, from which it is elevated into the mills, coming out flour—the foreman said “To feed the English.” The machinery of this mill is mostly driven by water from the river Mississippi. From here we visited the pretty city of St. Paul’s, with its 14-storey buildings, and the Mississippi Valley and waters at its feet.

On Tuesday, November 4th, we left this city for Niagara. Who can describe these grand waterfalls, or write the music of their rolling, tumbling, dashing waters—once seen and heard, never to be forgotten? We then left the United States of America at Niagara Falls, and re-entered Canada by rail bound for Hamilton, which is a manufacturing city in the Province of Ontario. We arrived in time to visit the Britannia Silver Works the same afternoon. Our next visit was to Brantford. We were introduced to the Mayor, &c., and attended a meeting of the Board of Trade to discuss the question of increasing the boundary of the City of Brantford. The discussion was a good one, the several speakers showing much ability.

On Wednesday morning, accompanied by Mr. Blue, Deputy Minister of Agriculture for Ontario, and others, we drove out to Bow Park, a farm of about 1,000 acres, and managed by Mr. John Hope (well known in English agricultural circles) for Messrs. Nelson, of Edinburgh. There is here an excellent herd of shorthorns in fine condition, with bone and hair showing vitality, a treat to see. This is a nice farm, about three miles from Brantford, and bounded by the Grand River on one side. The stock and crops on the farm showed good management. At Brantford we went through the factory of Harris & Co., makers of the “Osborne” Reapers and Mowers, where some thousands are turned out annually. Professor Bell gives distinction to this city, as the inventor of the telephone. We left Brantford by the Grand Trunk Railway, passing through the counties of Oxford and Elgin, observing all along the route good mixed farming, and stock in the fields in good condition. At St. Thomas we were accompanied by Alderman Martin, and were driven to Yarmouth, overlooking what is known as the Quaker’s Valley. Here is a good country, well farmed; indeed, the whole valley is like a series of prize farms lying side by side. This drive of many miles revealed some of the best farming we had seen in Canada. The next item in our programme was a return to Windsor, Ontario, and thence by train along the valley of the Thames River to London, the county town of Middlesex. On Saturday, November 8th, we arrived at Guelph. It was market day. We examined some barley in sacks on a farmer’s waggon for sale. A brewer who bought this barley said he preferred the native four or six-rowed to the two-rowed; Mr. Hobson, from Mosboro, Ontario, said much the same thing. I saw good two-rowed barley grown near Prince Albert, North-West territory, and also samples from British Columbia, near Victoria, Brandon, and Alberta, all of which for malting I should have preferred to any of the four or six-rowed barley shown to me in Ontario.

I was well pleased with the arrangements, and the practical good

being done, at the Guelph Agricultural College. President Mills, with Professor Shaw, showed the delegates all the working at this college and experimental farm. Students are taught in the college the spirit of agriculture, and on the farm they work out the practice, in the management of the land, sowing and harvesting the crops, in breeding cattle, sheep, and pigs, in veterinary science, and in experiments with different rations as to feeding the different classes of animals to make the most profitable return on the produce consumed, the weighing machine being regularly used, and accurate reports taken of all proceedings. I must say I was instructed as well as interested in this work shown us by the genial President and staff.

I feel that I must specially thank the Minister of Agriculture, Ontario, for arranging for Mr. Blue, the Deputy Minister, to show Mr. Wood and myself some of the farms, stock, and agricultural lands of Ontario. I think, further, that I am justified in saying that Ontario has sown the seeds of most of the farming now practised in the Dominion west of Ontario, and that she may still be called the premier province for stock and mixed agriculture.

We journeyed on through Ottawa and Montreal to Quebec, accompanied by the courteous Secretary to the Department of Agriculture (Mr. H. B. Small) and Mr. Campbell, of Winnipeg, to both of whom my best thanks are due for their kindness and assistance, as indeed they are due to all Government agents and Canadians generally. We joined the Allan Royal Mail Steamer "Parisian" on November 13th, and, after a safe passage with pleasant company, arrived in Liverpool on the 22nd.

I exceedingly regret that, owing to the limited time at my disposal, I could not visit the maritime provinces; but from what I ascertained from Senator Prowse, of Prince Edward Island, from gentlemen I met in various parts of Canada, and from those of the delegates who were more fortunate than myself, I believe that these provinces are in many ways similar to Ontario, and that they offer very good openings to farmers and others with capital.

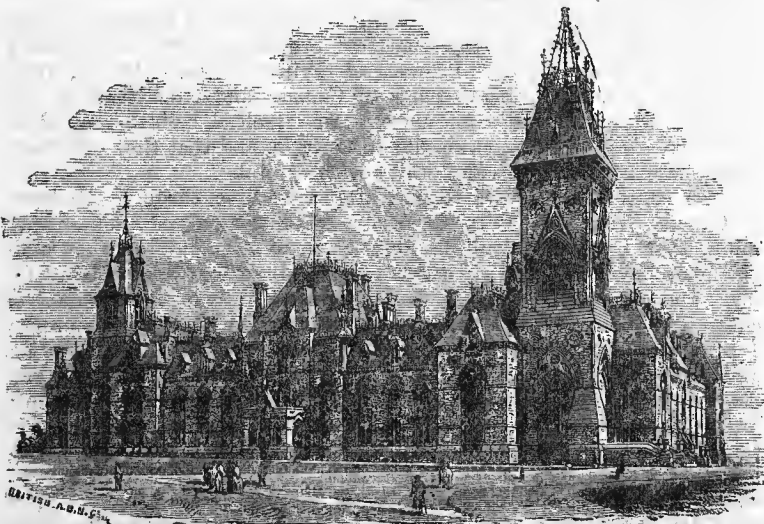
In conclusion, I have to say, after travelling through the heart of Canada, from Quebec to Victoria, a distance of some thousands of miles, that I saw in Manitoba and the great North-West thousands of square miles of good prairie land yet untouched, and waiting for men and money to develop its worth and to win for themselves competence and independence. In travelling through this vast country I conversed with many hundreds of settlers of different nationalities, and all seemed satisfied with their lot. I met many men who a few years ago had gone out to Canada with nothing but their hands and brains, who are now in good positions on fair farms, and glad that Canada is their present and future home. These men are mostly located on their own lands, and feel a freedom hitherto unknown; whilst they find the Canadians quite as English as themselves. It is hard to realise that this is the case so many thousand miles from England, yet it is undoubtedly the fact, and the farther west you get from Quebec the more English in character you find the people.

After careful investigations in all directions, ample opportunities

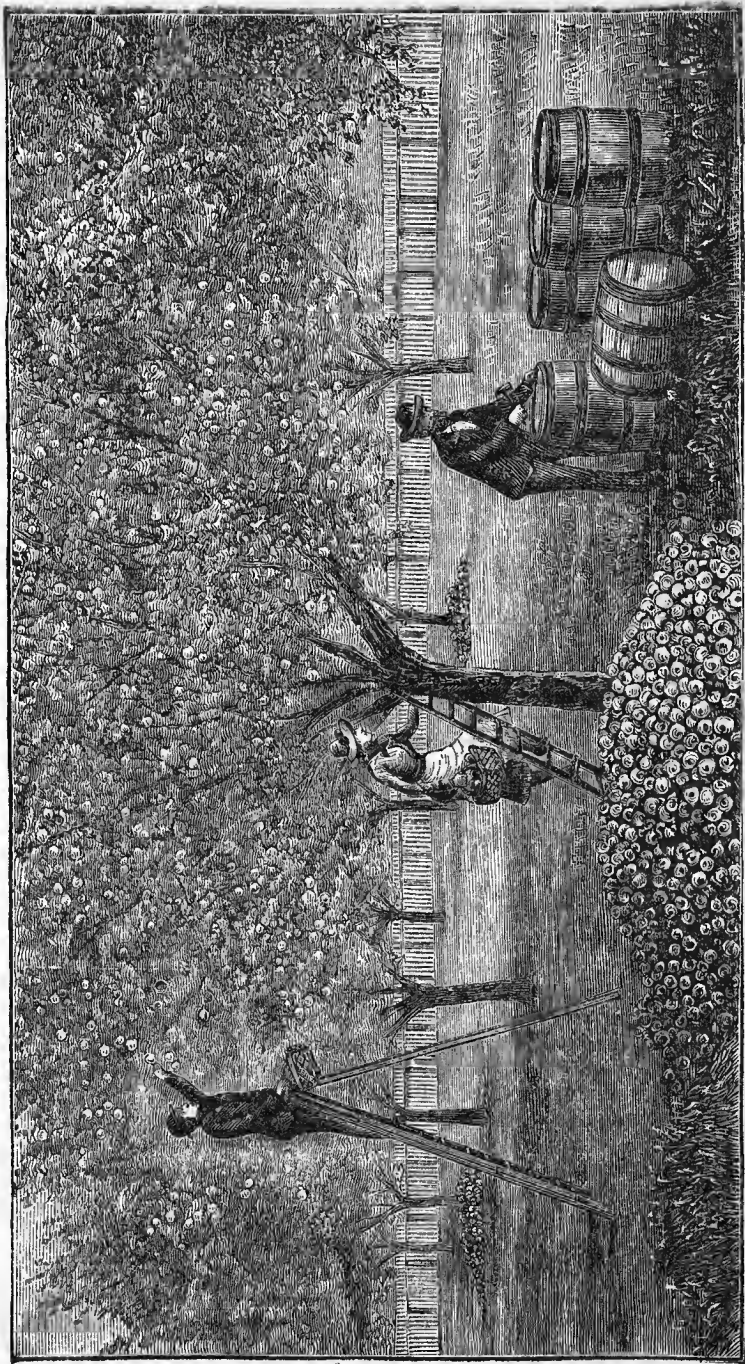


for which were afforded me, and after thoroughly testing all statements made to me by the light of my own hard practical experience of nearly half a century, during which period I have become familiar with nearly every agricultural district in Great Britain, and the methods of farming adopted therein, I can safely say that, in my opinion, there are homes and independence in these vast regions for thousands in at least three conditions of persons, viz.: the young of both sexes, who can get employment at good wages, provided they are willing to make themselves useful as labourers and servants, with an excellent chance of winning homes and homesteads for themselves; and, secondly, for the small farmer with a little capital, who can here use his strength, intelligence, and small means to greater advantage than perhaps anywhere else in the world, both to himself and to the country of his adoption; in the case of his richer brethren, though they may not need to win a livelihood for themselves, the openings for settling sons and daughters advantageously are not to be despised.

I may add that, in order to assist and advise intending settlers, and prevent them being imposed upon, the Canadian Government have appointed agents in all the larger towns and cities in Canada, and also in England, from whom all information that they can desire is to be obtained. The Canadian Railway Companies, the Hudson's Bay Company, and several large land companies, which have lands for sale in various parts of the Dominion, also have local and European agents, by whom information will be readily given.



GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS, OTTAWA (EAST BLOCK).



APPLE ORCHARD, EAST HAMILTON, ONTARIO.

## THE REPORT OF MR. JOHN T. WOOD,

The Court, Halewood, near Liverpool.

At a meeting of the Liverpool Farmers' Club, on January 31, 1891, Mr. Richard Webster in the chair, Mr. JOHN T. WOOD read the following paper:—

In response to a letter in the public press from Sir Charles Tupper, the High Commissioner for the Dominion in England, inviting applications from gentlemen willing to proceed to Canada to report on the agricultural resources of the Dominion, my services were tendered at the request of influential farmers in this district, and accepted, and I left my home on the 4th September last to join the Allan Line steamship "Sardinian," on which I met three colleagues who had received similar appointments. We cleared from the Alexandra Dock, Liverpool, directly after midday, and were soon speeding on our way to Moville, there to await the arrival of the mails.

At the outset, I may say that it is almost impossible in a brief report, such as this is intended to be, to sufficiently condense the information. that the public who are interested in Canadian emigration may obtain a succinct account of a tour which has been to me at once both delightful and instructive. I trust, therefore, I shall be pardoned by the general reader if I touch lightly on the pleasurable portions of the trip, about which volumes could be written, in order that the time and space at my disposal may be more usefully employed in spreading a knowledge of the present condition and probable future of one of our Colonial possessions, of which Englishmen may be proud, and concerning which there is such a lamentable display of ignorance and misconception.

It will, therefore, be sufficient for me to say, that passengers of all grades by the Allan Line, receive every care and attention at the hands of the ship's officers, whose endeavours are successfully employed to render the voyage a period of enjoyment to all concerned. Games on deck, reading, music (vocal and instrumental), including two concerts (one arranged by the cabin, and the other by the intermediate passengers, and given in aid of the Liverpool Seaman's Orphanage), together with the interchange of ideas with my fellow-travellers, all tended to render the passage across the Atlantic interesting and agreeable. We sighted Belle Isle on the 11th, and proceeding, enjoyed the unique spectacle, on a warm, bright sunny day, of sixty icebergs in sight at one time—some of immense size and beauty, and the majority of which appeared to have grounded on the coasts and banks, after floating from the more northerly regions. The "Sardinian" discharged passengers and mails at Rimouski, and proceeding, arrived at Quebec at midnight on the 13th September. A walk before breakfast past the citadel to the Plains of Abraham (where Wolfe fell), and a subsequent drive to Indian Lorette, were all that our limited time would permit of. The lands passed through,

especially in and near the Indian village, were of good quality and productive, but dirty; being indifferently and roughly cultivated. The natives are Huron Indians (civilised) and French Canadians; the latter a fine race of happy people, who grow sufficient to keep themselves and their families, but who do not appear to attempt farming as a business-like and profitable operation. In this district we were informed that at least five-sixths of the inhabitants are Roman Catholics. There are no tenants; each farmer owns his own lot. French Canadians do better here than English and Scotch settlers, and my advice to the latter would be, go further west.

Travelling by rail from Quebec to Montreal, we passed through immense tracts of land, which, viewed from the railway car, is certainly not inviting; though, after passing Three Rivers, the plains were more fertile. Montreal, possessing 220,000 inhabitants, was reached at 8 p.m.; and an inspection of the town showed how rapidly cities in Canada can increase in population and importance. The buildings are solid and handsome, the streets well laid out and lined with maples, which grow luxuriantly; pavements of wood, compressed asphalt, and macadam, are the rule. Thoroughfares and buildings are lighted by the electric light; and on all sides are evidences of progress and success. It is important to the farmers in the neighbourhood to have such a population in their midst.

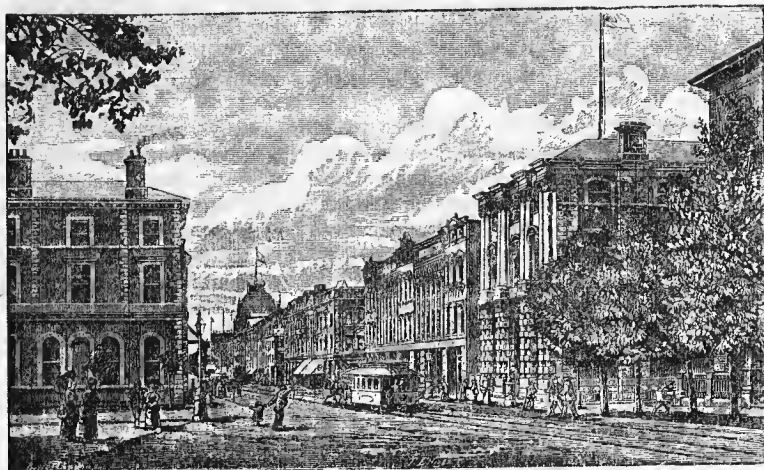
As the time at our disposal did not permit our seeing much of the Province of Quebec, and absolutely nothing of the maritime provinces, I purpose dealing first with Ontario, and then with Manitoba, the great North-West Territories, and British Columbia, in the order named; and I trust I shall be excused if I make a digression, and attempt to give such information as I was able to gather respecting the mining and manufacturing industries of Alberta and British Columbia, with which, in my opinion, to a very great extent, the agricultural prosperity of each is inseparably bound.

#### ONTARIO.

Ontario has a superficial area of 181,800 square miles, and possesses a population of over two millions. The principal city in this province is Toronto, which contains very nearly 200,000 people. Here is the seat of the Provincial Government, and also of very considerable manufacturing industries; indeed it may be described as a city of wealth and success. In the years 1881 to 1888 an increase from 86,415 to 172,000 inhabitants is recorded.

Ottawa, the seat of the Dominion Government, contains about 50,000 inhabitants. The Houses of Parliament constitute a group of exceedingly fine buildings, which, whilst architecturally beautiful, are extensive, well arranged, and convenient. The lumber (timber) trade of the Province of Ontario is located here, whilst the various manufacturing industries carried on in Ottawa, and in the adjacent town of Hull on the opposite bank of the river, combine in making this an important centre of trade and commerce. Other cities I visited in Ontario were Hamilton, a manufacturing town of 45,000 inhabitants, London with 30,000, Brantford with 15,000, and Guelph with 11,000, each pos-

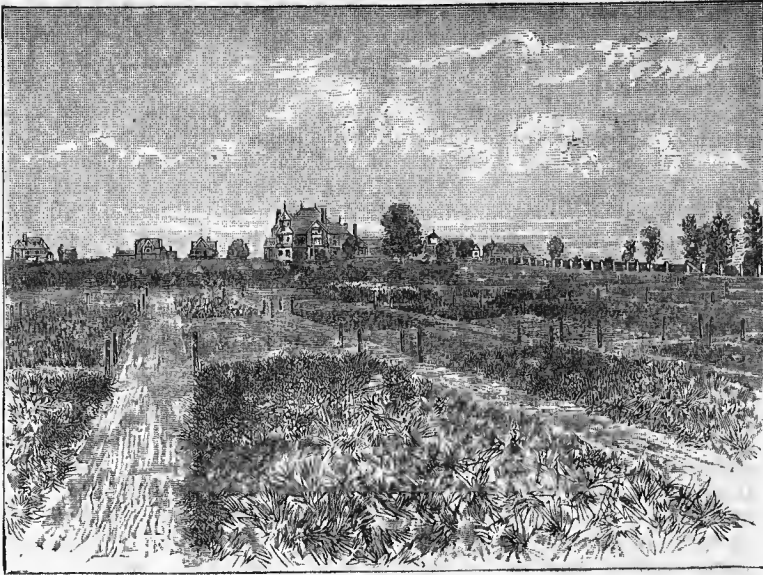
sessing distinct evidences of growth, which are not surprising when their improving manufactures and the quality of the agricultural lands in their vicinities, coupled with the excellent railway facilities, are borne in mind.



A VIEW IN LONDON, ONTARIO.  
(Richmond Street, looking South.)

At Ottawa we had the opportunity of inspecting the Central Experimental Farm, of enquiring fully into its management and aims, and of examining the work being accomplished under Professor Saunders' scientific and practical guidance. Words are incapable of expressing my appreciation of the extreme importance to the agriculturist and the Dominion generally, of the experiments and trials in every branch of husbandry there in progress, and of the exceeding carefulness with which all records are kept, to render the information published annually by the Department of Agriculture, thoroughly reliable. To no other country in the world can an Englishman emigrate and find the same deep interest taken by the Government in the welfare of settlers; indeed, it is difficult to conceive that anything more could be done to render them greater assistance. The establishment of the remaining Government farms, and the selection of the sites at Brandon for Manitoba, Indian Head for the North-West Territories, and at Agassiz for British Columbia, each of which I visited, reflect the highest credit on all concerned; whilst the intelligent support Professor Saunders receives in the seconding of his endeavours by the respective managers of those farms, leaves nothing to be desired. I much regret I had not an opportunity of visiting the farm at Nappan, Nova Scotia, established for the maritime provinces.

That in Canada, and especially in some districts, there are serious drawbacks—chiefly climatic—to be combatted, no one can deny. It is then of the utmost importance that an exact knowledge of the varieties



EXPERIMENTAL FARM, OTTAWA.

of grains, fruits, fodder, plants, vegetables, and trees suitable for each locality should be gained, and this and other information relative to stock, &c., is what is sought to be obtained and disseminated from these establishments. Not the least agreeable feature connected with my visit to the Central Farm, was the entire absence of red-tape and officialism. To mention all the branches working advantageously in the farmers' interest, would occupy too much space. It may, however, be well to enumerate a few. Grain and seeds of all kinds are tested free of cost to the sender (and post free also), for germination and vitality. Experiments are made with all varieties of wheats and other cereals, and with grasses and fruits, to test their relative productive qualities and period of early ripening. Seed and plant distribution is largely made, when it has once been established beyond doubt that any variety of grain or fruit is certain to prove useful to the recipients; and as an instance of what is being accomplished, I was informed that 12,000 samples, chiefly wheat, oats, and barley, had been distributed gratis during the past season. Tests of over 70 varieties of spring wheat, 100 of fall wheat, 80 of oats, 20 of rye, 50 of barley, as well as 50 of Indian corn, for productiveness and earliness of ripening, have been made in one year; whilst the experiments with fertilisers and in hybridising grains (especially wheat), must result in a permanent benefit to the Dominion which is incalculable. The growth of sugar-beets, and all kinds of roots and vegetables, claim a share of the Professor's attention. In 1889, 251 varieties of potatoes alone were grown side by side under similar conditions, whilst 237 new varieties

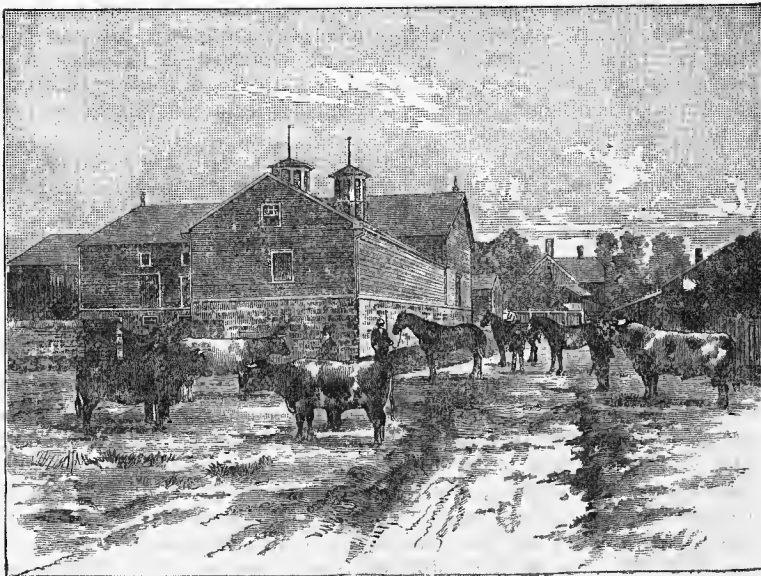
were raised from hybridised seeds. Orchards containing 360 kinds of hardy apples, pears, plums, cherries, &c., are being tried; the vineyard contains 127 varieties of outdoor grapes; and small fruits, such as strawberries, raspberries, blackberries, currants, gooseberries, &c., are receiving careful and intelligent study. The planting of the wide prairies, especially round the farm steadings, with shelter belts of forest and other trees, is a matter of first consideration, and, therefore, it is a satisfaction to the settler to know that he will, in the near future, be able to obtain from the Agricultural Department all the information he requires in this important branch. Poultry are kept in pure breeds and first crosses for ascertaining their relative hardiness, and their merits as egg producers, and as table fowls; and the whole of the Dominion to which civilisation has extended being admirably adapted to this industry, renders this a work of great utility. The immense interest to the stock-raiser in every part of the Colony attaching to the satisfactory laying down of grass lands, and to the growth of fodder plants, is fully recognised; and the experimental plots of native and foreign grasses under trial will, in another year, enable satisfactory advice to be given to the public. I may state that Indian corn grown for ensilage has been most successful; a crop of 30 tons per acre was being cut and chaffed during the period of my visit, forming an excellent winter food for stock. The experiments in cattle feeding, and in the relative milk producing properties of the respective breeds, are carefully noted, and each year's experience is published in the reports of Professor Saunders, and by the respective heads of departments.

The foregoing must be taken as representing a portion only of the scientific and useful work here accomplished. The Chemical Department is admirably conducted by Mr. F. T. Shutt, M.A., F.C.S., and the Botanical and Entomological Sections by Mr. James Fletcher, F.R.S.C., F.L.S.; whilst Professor Robertson is engaged visiting all parts of the Dominion, spreading broadcast information by lectures relative to the best known methods of butter and cheese making, a branch of agriculture for which Canada is well adapted, and one which must soon become very much more important than is at present realised.

*Toronto.*—The Canadian World's Fair at Toronto being open at this time, that city was the next visited; and two very interesting days were spent in an examination of the exhibits of horses, cattle, implements, fruits, vegetables, farm produce, &c. A very pleasing feature of the exhibition being the friendly rivalry displayed by the inhabitants of Manitoba, Assiniboia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, British Columbia, and other provinces, in placing before the visitors a collection of the products of their respective districts. These exhibits were well arranged, and in charge of trustworthy officials—usually farmers—who were at all times ready to give information and answer enquiries. Pleasing mottoes across the front of each provincial display, such as "We love Alberta the home of our adoption," prepared me in some measure when afterwards visiting them, for the general contentment of the people, and for their enthusiasm when insisting that their own particular locality was the best in the whole of Canada.



It would be an almost impossible task to attempt to do justice to the exhibition; I should, however, like to place on record my impressions regarding the marvellous variety and perfection of the excellently-grown fruits, roots, and vegetables. Allowing for the fact that none but the very best specimens find their way to an exhibition of this description, many of the entries were of exceptional merit, and showed clearly what can be accomplished with a Canadian soil and climate, by men well versed in the practice of the various branches of horticulture and farming. The innumerable varieties and extent of the show of out-door grapes, mostly grown in Southern Ontario, was a great surprise, all being well ripened and fine fruits. Apples, pears, plums, peaches (out-door), damsons, and cherries were alike excellent, whilst smaller fruits, such as red, white, and black currants, raspberries, and strawberries, shown in preserve and acid, testified to their vigorous growths. The display of roots and vegetables was equally praiseworthy. Long red, globe, and tankard mangolds, swedes, cabbages, cauliflowers, potatoes, carrots, parsnips, sugar-beets, capsicums, and tomatoes, forming a collection which would have done credit to a first-class show in England. The exhibit of honey would have delighted the heart of a British bee-keeper in its quantity and excellence. The agricultural implement and machinery department was a very extensive one, and an examination in detail showed clearly how far ahead of ours in perfection and cheapness these necessary appliances are. The samples of grain were good, field peas being in every instance of marvellous size, quality, and colour.



AN ONTARIO FARM.



It is my intention to deal subsequently with cattle and horse-raising as practised in Canada, and therefore I conclude with the remark, that such is the great interest taken by the whole community in agriculture and all appertaining thereto, that the secretary for the show was able to report that during the week 300,000 persons had passed the turnstiles, paying \$69,000, or approximately £14,000 for admission.

After an inspection of the land in the neighbourhood of Hamilton, and paying a hurried visit to the silver-plate works in operation there, we proceeded to Brantford, and drove to the celebrated Bow Park Farm of 1,000 acres. Here were evidences of good management in the tilling of the excellent land; the clover roots were probably the best it was my privilege to inspect during the tour, and an examination of the magnificent herd of shorthorns, showed at a glance the suitability of soil and climate to a cattle-raising and dairy industry. The lot of 35 pedigree heifers—two years of age—in one field I shall long remember, and the bulls and older cows were a grand lot. The whole of the district visited around Brantford is suitable for mixed farming, lending itself to dairy work, in addition to the productions of corn, by reason of the comparatively easy cultivation of succulent grasses for pasture.

Counties Brant, Oxford, and Elgin were travelled through by the Grand Trunk Railway, a halt being made at St. Thomas, whence a drive of 18 miles in a southerly direction brought us to the township of Yarmouth, in which the Quaker Valley is situated; we returned by Union Village to St. Thomas. The land passed during this long drive was of all qualities, and managed by good and indifferent farmers. Wherever efficient management prevailed, the crops were full and the land clean; indeed, a very considerable quantity of the area was farmed on English lines, and stood out in great contrast to the adjoining lands of similar quality, on which a lesser amount of energy and care had been bestowed.

The neighbourhood of Ridgetown, next visited, has been settled since about 1802. The farms here vary, some being evidently very productive, and others—especially west of Morpeth, on our way to Blenheim—show a want of expenditure in draining, whilst many of the houses and buildings had been allowed to run to decay; in fact, there were evidences of poverty extending over a considerable area. Undoubtedly, the best farming and farm management it was my lot to see in the Province of Ontario, was south and west of Blenheim. Excellent farmhouses and buildings have long been erected, the land is exceedingly fertile and the cultivation good, and the farmers are well-to-do and contented. The orchards of apples and peaches, with here and there a vineyard, were in healthy bearing condition; and field after field of fall wheat was better than any I ever remember seeing over a similar extent of ground, and added very much to the pleasure of a drive of 52 miles. The French beans, which are grown very extensively here as a field crop, had been well harvested and profitable.

Windsor was our next stopping place, and we drove thence to Sandwich, a vine-growing district. After visiting the first vineyard

planted in the township by M. Tournier, in 1872, we passed on to those of Mayor Girardot and his son. In this locality there are 600 acres, principally "Concords," for wine-making; and the industry and pluck of the natives may be gauged, when it is borne in mind that almost the whole of these are on land which 10 to 12 years ago was a dense forest; whilst the fruitfulness of the vines may be imagined by the fact that the growers can realise a good profit after selling their produce at equal to  $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb. The vines are usually planted 6 feet apart, centre to centre, and trained on wire trellises to obtain a maximum of sun and air. The land is worth £30 per acre, and an additional £30 per acre if well stocked.

I have now to mention an establishment maintained by the Provincial Government of Ontario for the education and training of farmers' sons and others in agriculture. The college is situated at Guelph, and is an excellent institution. Almost all kinds of pure bred cattle are kept, to which the pupils in turn attend, and they keep accurate records of feeding, milking, and other information; they do the ploughing, carting, and ordinary work of the farm, and receive instruction in practical carpentry, whilst a moiety of their time is spent in the laboratories and lecture-rooms, in theoretical and scientific study. The college is conducted by an able staff of professors; and successful students leaving this institution cannot fail to have a beneficial influence on their fellow-agriculturists, in whatever part of the Dominion they may settle. The fees are exceptionally light, and are graduated in favour of the sons of farmers in the province; strangers being permitted to enjoy its privileges on higher, but still very reasonable, terms. This institution has been productive of great good, in sending out, by their annual auction sales, surplus thoroughbred stock raised on the premises. Here a silo was open, and the animals were being fed on ensilage composed of Indian corn, which had been chaffed, at the time of harvesting, into lengths of about one inch. This was a very excellent fodder, and free from waste, and is a good illustration of what can be accomplished on a small area of land in a favourable climate in providing winter food.

As several of my colleagues will give their views on other portions of the Province of Ontario, it will suffice for me to say, that, in the districts I visited, the climate must be one of the best and most healthful in the Dominion, influenced, as it undoubtedly is to a very considerable extent, by Lakes Ontario and Erie. The dryness of the atmosphere renders the hot days in summer and the cold days in winter enjoyable, without being irksome; and the frequent and copious summer showers in the lower lake areas induce a rapidity of growth which enables the resident to raise almost any variety of plant or fruit which flourishes in a temperate zone, as instanced by the magnificent peaches and grapes produced annually out of doors.

There has been for some years a great movement of the younger farmers and farmers' sons from Ontario to Manitoba and the North-West, resulting in a considerable depreciation in the value of farming-land in this older province. I have no doubt they will do better in their new homes from a monetary point of view, as they are usually intelli-

gent, shrewd, hardworking men, who make good settlers, and who start out with the intention to succeed. It is very easy, however, to conceive that there are very many Englishmen, who can no longer be described as young men, who have enjoyed considerable comforts at home, contemplating emigration, who should weigh well the advantages Ontario offers in its climate, in the present reasonable terms on which good lands can be acquired, and in the similarity of farming operations generally, with those they have been accustomed to at home. I look upon the present prices of land in this province as tempting; and I shall be much surprised, indeed, if there is not an appreciation in the value of most of the best farms, which now range from £25 or £30 per statute acre for good lands, well situated, and possessing a desirable and comfortable house and fair buildings, down to £2 per acre for those having few improvements, and only a portion of the area of which has been brought under cultivation.

The free grant lands of Ontario are in the northern portions of the province, and are mostly in wooded districts, and such as I should advise Englishmen to leave to the future youth of Canada to clear.

It may be stated, that at Sudbury and other places on the north side of Lake Superior, valuable mines of nickel, copper, and other minerals have been discovered, and are now being successfully worked.

#### MANITOBA.—60,520 SQUARE MILES.

*Population.*—In giving my views of the present and probable future of Manitoba, it is essential that Winnipeg, which is now, and probably will ever be, the principal city of the great North West, should claim a few remarks. It has a resident population of about 27,000 people, and can claim a rapidity of growth which is astounding; as 20 years ago the then village contained only 215 persons. The city charter was secured in 1874, with a population of 3,000; in 1876 there were 6,500; in 1880, 8,000; whilst 1889 saw 25,000 persons resident within the town limits. If an examination is made of the causes of this phenomenal extension, it will be found that there are numerous reasons why Winnipeg has so prospered. Situated as it is at the junction of the Red and Assiniboine Rivers, and almost in the middle of the continent, it is within easy reach of the most extensive wheat-growing area in the Dominion, the timber districts of Lake of the Woods, and the mineral deposits of the province. It is already a great railway centre, through which all the passenger and goods traffic from the East and West passes. The spirit of the inhabitants is exhibited in the perfection of their public works, buildings, and manufactories, on which a large amount of capital has been, and is being expended; and it may truly be called a city of great enterprise, where tradesmen, and workmen who are not afraid to handle their tools, may prosper, and bring up and educate their children in surroundings which cannot fail to have a beneficial effect on their after lives. Energy and capital are both required here, if the new settler intends to reap a maximum and immediate benefit; though tradesmen and labourers who have started with only their health, constitution, and stout hearts, have readily earned and saved money, which has enabled them to purchase

and stock land, or take up homesteads, where they indulge in the freest and most independent life it is possible to conceive; and many of whom, whilst engaged in agriculture, manage in the season between seed-time and harvest to secure work at excellent wages in the cities and towns, and so easily obtain a position and competence very few could hope to acquire in this country.

Manitoba is at present a wheat-growing—indeed, I had almost said a wheat-manufacturing—province, as the large majority of its farmers depend for their profits almost exclusively on this grain, for the growth of which the rich black loam of its prairies is admirably adapted. Wheat can be cultivated with a minimum of labour, a matter of great importance when the scarcity of farm-hands in almost every district is considered, and it is a product easily saleable and readily transported. It is estimated that there were in the province about 800,000 acres of wheat under crop in 1890, 250,000 acres of oats, and 70,000 acres of barley.

So far, therefore, as present profit is concerned, the exclusive growth of cereals may be considered satisfactory. If an owner of land, however, looks to the future for a successful career in Manitoba or elsewhere in the West as an agriculturist, the time must come—indeed, in some districts the signs are not now wanting—when this exclusive cultivation of grain without manure will so impoverish even the richest lands, that a system of mixed farming must of necessity be pursued. It is, then, very satisfactory for me to be able to record that the comparatively few of the larger farmers, who, in their wisdom have adopted mixed husbandry, claim, that, whilst they are maintaining their freeholds in an excellent state of cultivation, their balance sheets will compare favourably with those practising the more exclusive methods.

It must be admitted that there are in many places serious obstacles to be overcome before mixed husbandry can be conducted in Manitoba with certainty and ease, and the most serious of these is the laying down of the ploughed lands in grasses for the purposes of hay, pasture, and rest. I have, however, already indicated what is being done by the Government to ascertain for the guidance of the farmer the best possible knowledge on this important subject. The grass plots at the experimental farm at Brandon, in which I took considerable interest, indicate clearly that the difficulty is not insuperable, and that cultivated and imported varieties, as well as some which are indigenous to the soil, may be counted upon to supply a want at present felt.

It is not my intention to attempt to describe in detail the lands passed through by rail, or in our drives of hundreds of miles in Manitoba: suffice it for me to say that almost the whole of the soil is of fine staple and easy to cultivate, and that strong and energetic young men with a knowledge of agriculture can scarcely go wrong in making for Winnipeg, whence they can readily reach such excellent centres as Brandon, Neepawa, Glenboro', Minnedosa, and Portage-la-Prairie, in the neighbourhoods of which good lands are procurable at a reasonable cost, and where there is plenty of work at good wages to be had.

Emigrants with a good knowledge of kitchen gardening desirous of settling in Manitoba, would find the soil around Winnipeg everything they can desire, and capable of producing fine roots and vegetables of all descriptions for consumption in the city.

It should be stated that the area of Manitoba is nearly equal to the whole of England, Scotland, and Ireland. It is not surprising, therefore, that a portion only of the Government free grant lands have been taken up, and that there will be ample room for many years for those who are desirous of reaping the benefits derivable from the breaking up of the virgin prairie, and who are not afraid of the small amount of hardship entailed in this pioneer work.

The Hudson's Bay Company, the Canadian Pacific, and the Manitoba and North Western Railway Companies, and the several Colonisation and Land Companies, are owners of most extensive and desirable properties, and are only too willing to give information to intending settlers, and to accept reasonable prices, and, if necessary, deferred payments.

A great deal has been from time to time written respecting the climate of Manitoba, and I certainly should prefer to have had a winter's experience, that I might with greater confidence give expression to my views. I did, however, at each point touched, endeavour to procure the best information from English and Scotch residents; and I am perfectly convinced that there is not a more invigorating and healthful climate in any country. There was an universal testimony to the extreme degree of cold as registered by the thermometer, but over and over again was it pointed out that the extreme dryness and clearness of the atmosphere rendered the sharp bracing winter weather endurable, and even enjoyable. Residents protect themselves from the cold by warm clothing—especially for driving—and plenty of fuel, so that women and children pass the winters without discomfort.

Greater drawbacks, to my mind, from an agricultural standpoint, are the occasional storms, blizzards, and summer frosts, which are sometimes of a character sufficiently severe to injure vegetation, especially in those districts where there is a minimum of shelter. As civilisation extends, and the planting of belts of maple and other trees on the wide prairie becomes universal, there must be a very considerable diminution of the inconvenience now felt from these causes.

It is impossible to imagine a people more sanguine of their success, and the future of their country, than are the Manitobans. All interviewed, of whatever nationality, were unanimous in declaring their preference for Manitoba over Quebec, Ontario, England, Ireland, Scotland, Germany, or whatever country they happened to hail from, and were equally emphatic in their disinclination to return, except to visit friends and relatives; whilst they are robust, independent, and happy.

It would be easy to give many instances of exceptional individual successes achieved; it will be less misleading, however, if I give a few taken at random from my note-book, which may be accepted as representative of the general body. Visiting the crofter settlement south of Glenboro' and near the Pelican Lake, Donald Stewart was interviewed.

Stewart was one of the crofters sent out under Government auspices in 1888. He has worked steadily and well, increasing the area of prairie broken each year, until, at the time of our visit he had 60 acres under crop, from 50 of which he expected a yield of 2,000 bushels of wheat. His oats (10 acres) were good; he had 20 head of horned stock (including two teams of working oxen, and eight in-calf cows), besides pigs and poultry. His potatoes were fine. He possessed a self-binding reaper, a waggon, plough, harrows, and other necessary implements, and being the owner of his 160 acres, has every reason, as Mrs. Stewart remarked, to "bless the day we came out." After visiting Roderick McKay, another crofter who had also been successful, but in a lesser degree, I halted on the borders of Pelican Lake to interview the son of a Liverpool merchant, who was educated and intended for a commercial career, but who elected four years ago to try his chances in agriculture. He has married and settled, and expressed himself as more than satisfied he did not go into an office or bank, as was originally intended, and where he could not have led the free and independent life he is now doing on his own farm of 320 acres in a beautiful locality. His crops, which he was busy harvesting, were very good; and he informed me that his brother was farming the adjoining 320 acres, and that two sisters who had come out on a visit to him had married Scotch farmers on the north side of Glenboro', who were also prospering. A most interesting half-hour was spent with Mr. John Barnet Watson, of Kindar House, Stockton, Glenboro', a native of Northallerton, Yorkshire, who, prior to leaving England four years since, was a gamekeeper in that county. Mr. Watson says, that on arriving out he had five cents. (2½d.) in his pocket, but, being willing to work, was soon able to save money, and ultimately purchased his present holding of 160 acres for £50. At that time 80 acres had been broken but had run to weeds; now, out of the total, there are 130 acres in wheat and 10 in oats, all very full crops; he has 17 head of horned stock, a pair of large working oxen, and a comfortable home and good living. Mr. Watson states "the winters are not so bad, and the dry climate suits me; there are about three or four days each year when you can't go about during high winds or blizzards, but I work out getting posts, rails, &c., during the full winter." I should add that he suffered very much in England from a weak chest, but as this does not now trouble him, and as he is evidently pleased with his success as a farmer, he expresses regret that he "did not come earlier." Mr. Watson estimates his yield of wheat at 40 bushels per acre on the newly broken ground, and 30 bushels on that previously cultivated, and the value of his freehold has advanced to three times the price he so recently paid for it.

One of the best managed farms in the neighbourhood of Brandon is that of Mr. Sandison; and although his success must be taken as being much above the average, it, nevertheless, shows what is possible in a good district when the farmer is thoroughly master of his work, and understands the management of his soil. It is Mr. Sandison's pride to relate how, in 1884, he, as a farm labourer, entered the North West, hiring himself as a servant at Carberry, and saving money until he was in a position to gradually and quietly acquire land; how, in

1886, he commenced farming on a half-section (320 acres), and being fortunate with each succeeding crop, has added annually to his area until in 1890 he had 2,000 acres under cultivation, the purchase price of which had nearly all been paid; he has 70 men who are housed and



PLOUGHING AT SANDISON'S FARM, BRANDON.

fed on the premises, and during the harvest season just completed had 40 horses, and 14 self-binding reapers. Mr. Sandison's crop of wheat, oats, and barley, (principally wheat) aggregated 60,000 bushels, and he estimates the value of his present property at £10,000, giving quite as much credit to the wonderful soil and climate as to his own pluck and clear head. Mr. Sandison maintains that Manitoba compares more than favourably with Dakota, and that its superior advantages will soon be universally recognised.

At Binscarth on the Manitoba and North Western Railway, I met with the son of a well-known Liverpool Steam Ship owner who has been out six years, and who, prior to going to Canada, had no experience of agriculture, and, indeed, still admits he has much to learn. He claims, however, to have been successful, and is loud in his praise of the life, preferring the climate and the freedom obtaining everywhere, to his prospects in Liverpool. At Moosomin in the extreme west of the province I called on a farmer's wife, who a few years ago left Runcorn with a lady then going to Canada. After being there some time, she married a native of Ontario who had gone west, and she was also most enthusiastic in describing the life; she considered the climate a good one, and said she would like to visit England to fetch her mother, but that she preferred Manitoba to live in. Countless instances of such contentment could be quoted.

It will be observed, that so far I have not dealt with the growth of roots and vegetables; we had, however, many opportunities of

examining these in the fields and gardens, and also on the show bench at Birtle; and there can only be one opinion on the suitability of the soil and climate for the production of potatoes, swedes, cabbages,



▲ FARM HOUSE IN MANITOBA.  
(Drawn by Colonel Fane.)

cauliflowers, celery, and other field and garden produce of like nature. In conjunction with my colleague, Mr. Edwards, I measured, at the Barnardo Home at Russell, in the north western part of Manitoba, some of the best growing specimens, and the measurements are as follow:—One cauliflower 2 ft. 10 in., and another 3 ft. 1 in. in circumference of flower; a drumhead cabbage, 3 ft. 7 in. round the solid heart; turnip radishes (quite solid),  $13\frac{1}{2}$  in.,  $14\frac{1}{2}$  in., and 16 in. in circumference; long radishes, 2 ft. 2 in. and 1 ft.  $8\frac{1}{2}$  in. length, and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  in. and 7 in. in circumference respectively; whilst the parsnips, potatoes, &c., were equally fine.

The pedigree shorthorns at the Model Farm, at Binscarth, also in the north western portion of the Province, deserve especial mention, and are evidences of what can be done in the successful raising of cattle of fine quality, where skill and capital are each utilised.

#### THE NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES.

##### *Provisional Districts.*

|                  |     |     |       |                       |
|------------------|-----|-----|-------|-----------------------|
| Assiniboia ...   | ... | ... | about | 95,000 square miles.  |
| Saskatchewan ... | ... | ... | "     | 114,000 " "           |
| Alberta ...      | ... | ... | "     | 100,000 " "           |
| Athabasca ...    | ... | ... | "     | 122,000 " "           |
| Total ..         |     |     |       | 431,000 square miles, |



Many of the examples I have already given would apply to those portions of the Territories which are contiguous to the Manitoban western boundary, and notably to the district abutting on the Manitoba and North-Western Railway lying between Binscarth and Yorkton. Two days spent in visiting crofters and farmers resident in holdings of 160 acres each, in the vicinity of Saltcoats, proved that once again we were amongst a people who considered they were farming some of the best lands in Canada. Certainly there appeared to be no lack of assistance forthcoming to give these men a start in the world. The crofters had, like those near Pelican Lake in Manitoba, been settled by the English Government; whilst many of the farmers in the neighbourhood had availed themselves of the advances which the Railway Company are willing to make to Englishmen or others of good character, to enable them to start comfortably on these free grant lands. The Company's advances vary from £40 to £100, they charging interest on the amount obtained, and taking as security a lien or mortgage on the property. The loans are not made in cash, but the settler is allowed to purchase his outfit subject to their approval, when they then pay for the articles so purchased. The above arrangement applies to any of the Company's free grant lands, whether in Manitoba or Assiniboia.

Whilst we were at Saltcoats, an agent, acting on behalf of a number of Mennonites farming in Dakota, took up 30 quarter-sections of land (160 acres each), in readiness for their removal during the ensuing spring; the gentleman in question having travelled over a very large extent of country, and finally settled on that district as the one best suited to their requirements. This is one of many evidences of emigration from the United States to Canada.

To describe in detail the remainder of the huge territories of Assiniboia and Saskatchewan would occupy too much space. I may say, however, that I hold the opinion that Englishmen may settle and succeed in many districts, and notably in the vicinity of the Saskatchewan and other rivers which flow through this portion of the Dominion. Prince Albert, for instance, is a rising town at the confluence of the north and south branches of the Saskatchewan River, where the prairie land is undulating, well sheltered, and watered, and the climate good, and where mixed farming may be successfully conducted. On Mr. McNiven's farm at Kirkpatrick, near Prince Albert, I examined probably the best sample of two-rowed barley I saw in Canada; whilst his "Prize Prolific Oats" were also heavy and good. The seed of both these grains had originally been sent from the experimental farm at Ottawa. Roots and vegetables also grow to perfection here.

On the return journey from Prince Albert to Regina, we had a few minutes to examine samples of roots and grain grown in the neighbourhood, and brought down for inspection to Saskatoon station. Here again the best samples of grain were grown from Ottawa seed, the Danish Chevalier barley and prize cluster oats being bright and well-matured. The inspection of a very creditable exhibition of agricultural produce at the annual show at Regina next engaged our attention. Butter, roots, cereals, and the special exhibit of grasses

and grain from the Indian Head farm, were all pleasing. A similar examination was made of the exhibits at the show at Medicine Hat, where a fine display of potatoes was especially worthy of note, whilst the cabbages, mangolds, turnips, red and white carrots and parsnips, all bore testimony to the special adaptability of the soil to produce them.

I have now to deal with Alberta. Here Calgary became our headquarters whilst the surrounding country was explored. This district varies in many respects from all other portions of the Dominion already dealt with. The Rocky Mountains extend along its western boundary, and lend special features to this area of natural wealth. The country abutting on the foothills of the far-famed range, possesses scenery of the most magnificent description, whilst the numerous streams and rivulets descending from the sides of the mountains provide water in abundance for man and beast.

Agriculturally, Alberta is distinctly a stock-raising district, where horses and cattle thrive remarkably. The inhabitants claim that it is also suitable for grain growing; and no doubt a certain quantity of corn and roots can be produced in favoured localities. Ranching and dairying, however, are the pursuits to be adopted by those who desire to make headway. The climate of Alberta is probably much more liable to changes of temperature in the winter time than any other part of Canada. During the prevalence of a north wind, a degree of cold is experienced as great as anywhere in the North-West. The prevailing winds, however, blow from the Pacific, and during its continuance milder weather is experienced, which clears away the snow, enabling horses to obtain their own feed and live in the open all the year round. In considering and estimating the future of Alberta, it should be borne in mind that it is the district nearest to British Columbia, and that, as the latter province develops and extends its industrial operations, a very considerably increased quantity of butter, bacon, poultry, eggs, and beef will be required, and these are commodities Alberta is fully capable of supplying. I was informed that British Columbia now imports 75 per cent. of its beef, 50 per cent. of its bacon, 60 per cent. of its flour, and 40 per cent. of its dairy produce, besides poultry and eggs; and there is the probability that its increasing mercantile, mining, manufacturing, and other industries will more than keep pace with the development of its agricultural resources.

Alberta already possesses on its ranches an enormous number of cattle and horses. The former are low grades of shorthorns, large framed, vigorous, and healthy, but devoid of quality, and of the characteristics of feeding and early maturity so highly appreciated by butchers and consumers. In looking through the large herds, one could not help wishing that a ship load of hardy polled Angus bulls, which have proved such a success in the West wherever used, could be imported. Were this done, the present prices obtained for stock exported would be considerably augmented, and an all-round benefit conferred. The polled Angus cattle at the Toronto show were remarkably good specimens, exhibiting a quality to fully satisfy any lover of this most useful breed. As I have intimated, horse-ranching is carried on extensively, and it would appear that a

horse can realise a good profit when sold at four years old for £22 or £23. Here there is scope for the capitalist farmer in breeding high-class animals—say roadsters and shires—for the Dominion, United States, and English markets. If this were attempted, after allowing for interest on capital and all expenses, a very handsome profit might be realised, in comparison with what is now obtained from the breeding of the hard but weedy animals usually found, which are produced from a second or third rate thoroughbred stallion and a nondescript mare.

In the whole of the Dominion there is no district equal to Alberta for horse breeding. Great as are its possibilities in ranching, however, there are still greater in mining. Immense deposits of iron ore have been found to lie in the Bow River and other valleys, and few countries possess such an extensive coalfield, with qualities ranging from high-class lignite to semi-bituminous, semi-anthracite and anthracite proper; whilst in the Foot Hills an excellent gas and coking coal has been found, which yields as high as 60 per cent. of coke. Coal mining is at present carried on at Lethbridge, the output being 1,000 tons per day, and gradually increasing. It is extremely probable that this coal will soon be used at the great smelting centres of Montana, as a railway connection has been established. Two deposits similar to the Lethbridge coal crop out at Grassy Island, in the Bow River, and on the Rosebud River, north of the Bow. Recent geological explorations have discovered deposits of anthracite, extending probably 50 miles along the north branch of the Saskatchewan River; and at Canmore, where most of the exploration has been carried on, no less than 14 seams varying from 2 feet 6 inches to 14 feet in thickness, and in quality from bituminous to anthracite. I have it on the authority of Mr. Pierce, the Inspector of Mines, that the adjacent immense beds of iron ore are equal to producing the highest grades of steel.

It is said, that the greatest undeveloped fields of petroleum are those of the Athabasca and Peace Rivers and their tributaries, a basin covering thousands of miles square; and arrangements are now being perfected, to have thorough tests made.

Alberta is rich in sandstone, and limestone, and clay for building and fire-bricks, whilst its proximity to British Columbia enables a good supply of timber to be obtained at an easy cost.

#### BRITISH COLUMBIA.

*Area about 341,305 square miles.—Population about 100,000.*

British Columbia is that portion of Canada abutting on the Pacific Ocean, and includes Vancouver and other islands along the coast. Its principal towns are the capital city of Victoria, and the coal-mining town of Nanaimo on Vancouver Island, and the cities of Vancouver and New Westminster on the mainland. The province may be described as generally densely wooded, and, to a very great extent, unexplored; yet it is known to possess immense mineral wealth, and probably the finest coniferous timber in the world. Compared with the rest of Canada the available area of agricultural land (other

than the uncleared forests) is small, much of it is, however, very productive, and capable of growing the very finest fruits and cereals.

The climate of Vancouver Island and the coast districts of the mainland already populated is equable and good, and much resembling that in the more favoured districts in the south of England, though with a heavy rainfall; the combination produces a luxuriance of growth. Snow is seldom known to lie. The climate of the interior of the province varies considerably, the extensive valleys lying between the mountain ranges being subject to warm days and cold nights.

Vancouver Island is well wooded, yet a considerable portion of arable land may be obtained, and this will, in all probability, be utilised in the production of butter, poultry, eggs, fruit and vegetables for the supply of the populated districts.

The Chinese population in Victoria are excellent market gardeners, and compete with the Canadians in producing saleable vegetables; there are, however, many openings for emigrants who understand garden and dairy work, and a good living is obtainable from a small farm, the shortness of production maintaining excellent prices.

The city of Victoria is beautifully situated on a lovely harbour on the south-east coast of the island, and here the value of real estate would appear to be a decidedly improving one. There is an electric tramway running to Esquimalt, and the city is lighted by electricity. The buildings are substantial, and the people thoroughly English in style and feeling. A railway connects Victoria with Nanaimo, which is at present the seat of the coal-mining industry of the province. Here and at Wellington about 2,500 men find employment, the output being approximately 550,000 tons per annum, of which 500,000 is raised for export. This has been proved to be the best coal obtainable on the Pacific coast. All kinds of hardy and half-hardy fruits flourish, such as pears, plums, peaches, nectarines, grapes, quinces, and apricots; and I shall long remember the enormous crop of beautiful apples, the weight of fruit in innumerable instances bringing the branches of the trees to the ground.

The city of Vancouver is the terminus of the Canadian Pacific Railway, and is built on the shore of a splendid harbour. Its population in 1886 was 600; in 1888, 6,000; and in 1890, 15,000; it is therefore not surprising, when the extraordinary extension of the city is considered, that the value of building lands has increased by leaps and bounds. Electric lighting, electrical trams, gas and water works, are established; and, when the overland traffic to China and Japan is fully developed, Vancouver must become a great shipping port. The magnificent growths of fir trees and cedars in the vicinity of the town render farming practically impossible; the day is near, however, when these giants of the forest will be turned to account, and a lumber industry of an extensive character further developed. As instances of the grandeur of the specimens of conifers to be found, I may state that trees of remarkable straightness and quality were measured 54 feet, 35 feet, 36 feet, and 39 feet in circumference at 4 feet above the ground level.

New Westminster is a rising town of probably 8,000 inhabitants,

and owing to its situation on the bank of the Fraser River (about 16 miles from its mouth), it is within easy communication by steamboat and road with the best agricultural lands in the coast districts of the Province. I may at once say that in my judgment I have never seen better land for all-round farming and gardening purposes than the rich black soils of Lulu Island and other delta lands of the Fraser. There are probably 50,000 acres of these strong and rich alluvial deposits, which five or six years ago could have been purchased for 4s. or 5s. an acre. Such, however, is the opinion of the present owners, that £15 to £20 an acre now is asked; and, when its comparative proximity to the rapidly increasing cities is considered, in conjunction with its capability to produce the heaviest crops obtainable in any country, its present price must still be reasonable. There is nothing this land and climate will not produce which now goes to make up the £250,000 worth of farm and garden produce annually imported into British Columbia. The lands of the Chilliwack district are also very fertile, but further removed from the town populations; they are, however, desirable localities for fruit and dairy industries.

The Okanagan and other valleys possess 300,000 acres of land suitable for arable farming, and probably 1,500,000 acres more or less suitable for grazing. I was not able to visit this neighbourhood, but from the products exhibited, and the information obtainable, it is clear that this is a productive country. I have beside me while I write, several well-grown and well-ripened ears of Indian corn raised there; and the cultivation of wheat and other cereals is proceeding so satisfactorily, that in 1890 20 tons of binding-twine was sent into Okanagan Valley, which is now being opened up by a branch railway from Sicamous, on the Canadian Pacific Railway.

The town of New Westminster is destined to become the manufacturing city of the mainland of British Columbia. Already energy and capital are developing the valuable resources of the district. Extensive lumber mills are in operation; the salmon-canning industry is very largely conducted, giving employment during the season to 5,000 workmen; woollen and cigar factories are started, and machine shops and foundries at work. A branch of the Canadian Pacific Railway runs into the town, and the Northern Pacific Railway has a terminus also; so that by sea and rail it may be said to be in touch with almost every part of the globe. Good labourers are paid high wages here.

The mineral resources of British Columbia constitute its greatest wealth, and the gold, coal, silver, copper, iron, and other minerals are widely distributed.

#### GENERALLY.

Having now completed my attempt to condense the vast amount of knowledge of the country, gained in a tour which extended from the Atlantic to the Pacific Oceans, and from the boundary of the United States in the south to Prince Albert on the Saskatchewan River in the north, and which comprised 17,000 miles of travel by steamer, rail, and road—the latter necessitating a distance of over 1,100 miles, in order

to thoroughly examine lands situated, in many instances, long distances from the railway—it is necessary that I should state the object the Canadian Government had in view in issuing the invitations; and also that I should give my opinions, recommendations, and words of warning to those who, being interested in emigration, may read my report.

First, let me say, then, that the Dominion Government have for some time felt, that, considering the great advantages the country possesses for settlement, they were not obtaining a proper share of the emigrants from the United Kingdom; and conceiving, that, notwithstanding the general accuracy of the information relative to the various provinces which has been published from time to time with their sanction, it might possibly be that the public viewed this official emigration literature with an amount of suspicion; hence the determination to invite representative agriculturists from England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales, to investigate the present condition and probable future of their vast territory, and whose reports, being voluntary, might spread information which is sorely needed.

In all my investigations I have ever felt the great responsibility of the task I had undertaken, not alone to the Government of Canada, but equally to the people of England, and my own country in particular; and it is therefore with sincere pleasure that I record the fact that a perfectly free hand was accorded me to visit those districts I thought most desirable, and to obtain the information I required in my own way.

It will be conceded that it is the policy of the United States to decry Canada as an agricultural country, and in my opinion a large amount of the prejudice existing, and of the general belief in the great hardships to be borne by settlers in the more northern country, is the result of misleading, if not absolutely incorrect, information supplied by those whose anxiety it is to secure the constant flow of the tide of emigration to the land of the Stars and Stripes.

For a considerable period the Americans have been able, with a modicum of truth, to point to the fact that Canadians had given up their homes and crossed the border. It should be remembered, however, that when this emigration occurred Canada had no lands to offer to her sons, except uncleared forests, as Manitoba and the North-West Territories had not been acquired, whilst the prairie lands of the Western States were available and in process of being opened up for settlement. Again the excellence of education in Canada for a long time has been such that her people have received a superior training to that obtainable in America; it is not surprising, therefore, that Canadians were at a premium. This movement has now stopped; indeed, many of those who left and adopted agricultural pursuits are returning sadder but wiser men; and we at many points met American farmers, acting on behalf of their fellows in the States, examining into the agricultural capabilities of Canada, in view of their settlement in the Colony, and that this tide, which has already commenced to flow—especially from Dakota—will continue, I have no reason to doubt.

Amongst the many advantages Canada offers to the emigrant, the following may be enumerated:—

The Dominion Government is composed of men of the highest integrity and honour, whose sole aim and work are exercised for the good of the community at large, and who are keenly alive to anything which will tend in the smallest degree to improve the proud position the Colony at present occupies. The Provincial Governments, and even those of the Municipalities, are equally free from suspicion, and would compare most favourably with similar institutions at home; and this is the more pleasing when it is remembered that frequently, and especially in the recently settled districts, the class of men obtainable are not always of the social status we in England are accustomed to elect.

The educational system of the Dominion is exceedingly good, enabling children to obtain a grounding which is not excelled in any older country, and at quite a minimum of inconvenience to the children, and cost to the parents. The school teachers are capable, and the school districts so arranged, even in the sparsely populated areas, that no habitation is more than three miles from the school house.

The taxes are very light, and those raised are spent entirely in the Municipality producing them, on necessary road and works, and for educational and other purposes. There is an absolute safety of life and property, and crime generally is quite, you may say, unknown, as instanced by the absence of even a single prisoner, at the time of our visit, in the district gaol at Brandon, in Manitoba. There is no class distinction as in England, and especially is this so in Manitoba and the Territories, whilst political and religious freedom are universal. There are no paupers or beggars, and consequently an expensive poor-law system is not required. The invigorating climate, the educational advantages, which are highly valued, and the intelligent interest taken by all classes in everything appertaining to Federal and Local Government, combine to produce the vigorous spirit of independence and contentment met with throughout the length and breadth of the land.

Finally it may be pointed out as worthy of the intending emigrants' consideration, that, if he finally selects Canada for his future home, he will be welcomed there by a people of kindred sympathies, who live under the protection of the British flag, and enjoy the right to acquire and hold real estate without being called upon, as in many parts of the United States, to renounce his birthright, and swear allegiance to the President, and his willingness to take up arms especially against Her Majesty the Queen, which also means, in the majority of instances, against those who are most dear to him in his old home.

Now for a few words of warning to those, who, being from any cause dissatisfied with their lot here are contemplating a new start in life abroad. First, let me say that there is no royal road to making money and be successful, without labour, in Canada; there is, however, ample scope for those, who, understanding agricultural operations, whether as farmers or labourers, are not afraid in the early part of their residence in the country to undergo a certain amount of hard work. To such men, Canada offers a fine field and successful future; but to those who have been accustomed to a life of comfort and refinement, and who do

not care to devote their entire energies to the pursuit of their occupations, I would say by all means stay at home.

Intending emigrants would do well to obtain all the information possible respecting the various parts of the Dominion, for when it is remembered that Canada is nearly as large as the whole of Europe, and is 600,000 square miles larger than the United States, leaving out Alaska, it will be seen how easy it is for a man who would make a most certain success in one province to make an utter failure in another. In the selection of the district to which he emigrates, regard should be had to his training, and his capacity to engage in any one of the multifarious branches of the work of the garden or farm; and to those who have the opportunity before leaving England, I would say, make yourselves thoroughly conversant with the best known methods of butter and cheese-making, for assuredly there is a great future in many parts of the Dominion for a dairy industry, and it is almost unnecessary for me to point to the advantages gained by those who producing the best articles command the highest prices and the readiest sale.

In my judgment it is undesirable that either a farmer or labourer should emigrate and immediately purchase or take up land. The prominent and successful men in Canada are those who have not been impatient, and many of whom, whilst earning good wages as labourers, acquired a local knowledge of the greatest import, and at the same time saved money to purchase their subsequent holdings.

With regard to carpenters, joiners, bricklayers, masons, blacksmiths, and other tradesmen emigrating, I should advise in every instance that they obtain from the nearest agent of the Canadian Government, information as to the precise points to which they should proceed, the rate of wages at the time being paid, and the cost of the necessaries of life; there are many openings for skilful men, but by following this advice disappointment may very frequently be avoided.

There is room in Canada, and good wages, for domestic servants of all kinds; but ladies who obtain their living by teaching music, languages, or other accomplishments, should not go out unless they have previously obtained appointments. This applies also to clerks, male and female, whose past lives have been spent in offices. There are very few openings for professional men.

Capital is required almost everywhere, and many openings are thus available for the employment of money, which at the present time brings such a poor return in England. Excellent freehold securities, and 7 per cent. and 8 per cent. interest are obtainable in Manitoba, and 6 per cent. and 7 per cent. for similar securities in British Columbia; and a still better return can be ensured by those who assist in extending the numerous manufacturing industries. I look on Vancouver Island and the mainland west of the Rocky Mountains, as the portion of the Dominion having the greatest manufacturing future by reason of its geographical position and great wealth of minerals; and where the manufactories centre, there will the best prices for agricultural produce be obtained. British Columbia is, undoubtedly, a province with a grand destiny.



I have been frequently questioned since my return, on the subject of the Indians resident in the Dominion, and it may therefore be useful information to intending emigrants to know that the wise policy of the Government in originally settling the Indians on some of the best lands—and through the Indian department and its agents, clothing, and, where necessary, providing them with food, teaching them in schools, and instructing them in the cultivation of their reserves, and generally in pursuing an honest policy of civilisation, as opposed to a policy of extermination—has borne good fruit, and I do not fear in the future any such risings as those we hear of at the present time in the United States. Indians in Canada are now frequently employed as farm labourers, fishermen, and in other branches of work, and are contented.

The wild animals of the Dominion, too, are sometimes alarmingly spoken of, but extermination has been carried on to such an extent, that residents who are fond of sport regret that the gradual settling of the country has deprived them of their pleasure. There are still, however, deer and moose in some districts, and prairie chickens, ducks, geese, and other wild fowls in abundance.

Emigrants have therefore nothing to fear; indeed, it will surprise me much if there is not a very considerable exodus from the United States to Canada, where, as I have intimated, security of life and property is equal to that prevailing in England. The last week in March is the best time for arriving in the country.

In conclusion, I desire to bear testimony to the kindly consideration I received from Canadians generally in the course of my investigations, without which it would have been difficult to have accomplished my task. I also desire to thank the officials of the Canadian Pacific, Grand Trunk, and the Manitoba and North-Western Railway Companies, for their generous assistance at all times rendered; and especially are my thanks due to the Minister of Agriculture, and also to the Senators, Members of Parliament, and other official gentlemen, through whose districts I travelled, and who at all times were ready to supply me with necessary introductions, and generally to assist in making my visit profitable and instructive.

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# THE VISIT OF THE TENANT-FARMER DELEGATES TO CANADA IN 1890.

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## THE REPORTS OF

Mr. ARTHUR DANIEL, 172, Dereham Road, Norwich;

Colonel FRANCIS FANE, Fulbeck Hall, Grantham;

Mr. ROBERT PITT, Crickett Court, Ilminster;

And Mr. HENRY SIMMONS, Bearwood Farm, Wokingham,

ON

The Agricultural Resources of Canada:—

Prince Edward Island; Nova Scotia; New Brunswick;

Quebec; Ontario; Manitoba;

North-West Territories; and British Columbia.

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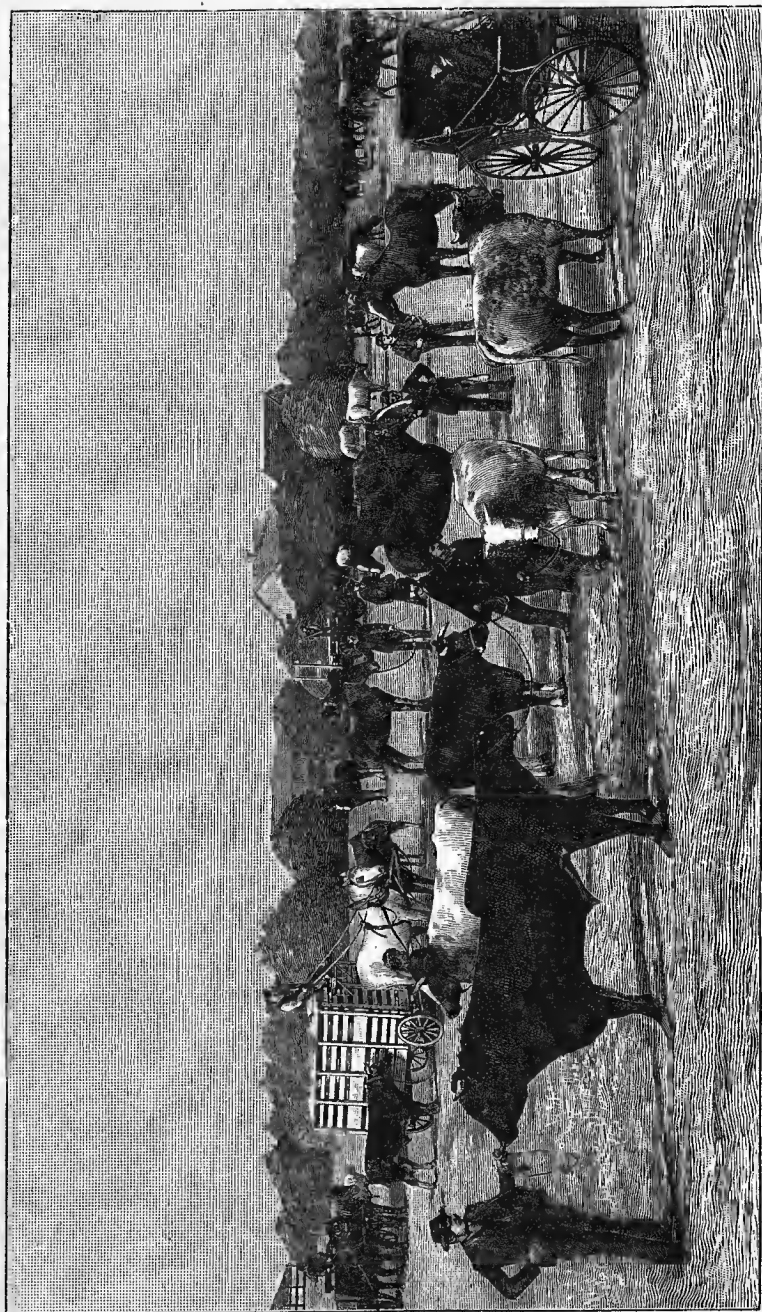
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FARM SCENE IN MANITOBA—THE BEESFORD STOCK FARM.

## PREFACE.

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IN August last the High Commissioner for Canada, by direction of the Minister of Agriculture, invited the following gentlemen, who are all connected with the agricultural industry in the different parts of the United Kingdom in which they reside, to visit the Dominion of Canada, to report upon its agricultural resources, and the advantages the country offers for the settlement of farmers and farm labourers, and the other classes for which there is a demand:—Mr. George Brown, Watten Mains, Caithness, Scotland; Mr. Arthur Daniel, 172, Dereham Road, Norwich, Norfolk; Mr. Wm. Edwards, Ruthin, Wales; Colonel Francis Fane, Fulbeck Hall, Grantham, Lincolnshire; Mr. G. Hutchinson, Brougham Castle, Penrith, Cumberland; Mr. E. R. Murphy, The Kerries, Tralee, Ireland; Mr. Robert Pitt, Crickett Court, Ilminster, Somerset; Mr. Wm. Seotson, Rose Lane, Mossley Hill, near Liverpool, Lancashire; Mr. H. Simmons, Bearwood Farm, Wokingham, Berkshire; Mr. John Speir, Newton Farm, Newton, Glasgow, Scotland; Major Stevenson, Knockbrack, Goshaden, Londonderry, Ireland; Mr. J. T. Wood, The Court, Halewood, near Liverpool, Lancashire.

The reports, if published together, would make rather a bulky volume, and it has been decided, therefore, to divide them into four parts, as under:—

Part I. will contain the reports of Messrs. Edwards, Hutchinson, Scotson, and Wood;

Part II., the reports of Messrs. Daniel, Fane, Pitt, and Simmons;

Part III., the reports of Messrs. Brown and Speir, from Scotland; and

Part IV., Messrs. Murphy and Stevenson, from Ireland.

Any or all of these volumes may be obtained, post free, by persons desiring to peruse them, on application to Sir Charles Tupper, Bart., G.C.M.G., C.B., High Commissioner for Canada, 17, Victoria Street, London, S.W.; or to any of the agents of the Canadian Government in the United Kingdom, whose names and addresses are as follows:—Mr. John Dyke, 15, Water Street, Liverpool; Mr. Thomas Grahame, 40, St. Enoch Square, Glasgow; Mr. John W. Down, Bath Bridge, Bristol; Mr. H. Merriek, Victoria Chambers, Victoria Street, Belfast; Mr. T. Connolly, Northumberland House, Dublin. Copies may also be obtained from the steamship agents, who are to be found in every village.

In addition to these reports, an official handbook of information is issued by the Dominion Government, and approved by the Imperial Government, which may also be procured, post free, on application to any of the Government agencies. It contains particulars of a statistical and general nature about the country, its resources and trade; the classes for which there is a demand in the Dominion, and which are confidently invited to settle in the country; the prices of provisions and other necessities; the rates of wages that are paid; and a more detailed description of the various provinces than can be given in the space at the disposal of the Tenant Farmers' Delegation. It is regretted that the delegates, except those from Ireland, were not able, owing to the limited time at their disposal, to pay a visit to the Maritime Provinces; but the pamphlet mentioned above, and others that are issued, supply full information in regard to those parts of the Dominion.

The agents of the Government will be glad to supply any information that may be desired as to the trade, industries, and varied resources of the Dominion; and persons contemplating settlement in Canada are advised, as a preliminary step, to place themselves in communication with the nearest Government agent.

In Canada the Government has agents at the principal points throughout the country. The following is a list:—

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| QUEBEC .....         | Mr. L. STAFFORD, Louise Embankment and Point Levis, Quebec.           |
| TORONTO .....        | Mr. J. A. DONALDSON, Strachan Avenue, Toronto, Ontario.               |
| OTTAWA .....         | Mr. W. J. WILLS, Wellington Street, Ottawa, Ontario.                  |
| MONTREAL .....       | Mr. J. J. DALEY, Commissioner's Street, Montreal, Province of Quebec. |
| SHERBROOKE .....     | Mr. HENRY A. ELKINS, Sherbrooke, Province of Quebec.                  |
| KINGSTON .....       | Mr. R. MACPHERSON, William Street, Kingston, Ontario.                 |
| HAMILTON .....       | Mr. JOHN SMITH, Great Western Ry. Station, Hamilton, Ont.             |
| LONDON .....         | Mr. A. G. SMYTH, London, Ontario.                                     |
| HALIFAX .....        | Mr. E. M. CLAY, Halifax, Nova Scotia.                                 |
| ST. JOHN .....       | Mr. S. GARDNER, St. John, New Brunswick.                              |
| WINNIPEG .....       | Mr. THOMAS BENNETT, Winnipeg, Manitoba.                               |
| .....                | Mr. J. E. TRTU, St. Boniface, Manitoba.                               |
| BRANDON .....        | Mr. A. J. BAKER, Office at the Railway Station.                       |
| REGINA .....         | Mr. J. T. STEMSHOEN.  |
| CALGARY .....        | Mr. F. Z. C. MIQUELON.  |
| PORT ARTHUR .....    | Mr. J. M. MCGOVERN.   |
| VICTORIA, B.C. ....  | Mr. JOHN JESSOP.  |
| VANCOUVER, B.C. .... | Mr. MORRISON SUTHERLAND.  |

These officers will afford the fullest advice and protection. They should be immediately applied to on arrival. All complaints should be addressed to them. They will also furnish information as to lands

open for settlement in their respective provinces and districts, farms for sale, demand for employment, rates of wages, routes of travel, distances, expenses of conveyance, and on all other matters of interest to settlers, and will receive and forward letters and remittances for settlers, &c.

The following are the land regulations prevailing in the different provinces of the Dominion :—

*Prince Edward Island.*—The available uncultivated and vacant Government land is estimated at about 45,000 acres. These consist of forest lands of medium quality, the very best having, of course, been taken up by the tenants in the first instance, and their price averages about one dollar per acre. Parties desiring to settle upon them are allowed ten years to pay for their holdings, the purchase-money to bear interest at 5 per cent, and to be payable in ten annual instalments.

*Nova Scotia.*—There are now in Nova Scotia about two millions of acres of ungranted Government lands, a considerable quantity of which is barren and almost totally unfit for cultivation; but there is some land in blocks of from 200 to 500 acres of really valuable land, and some of it the best in the province, and quite accessible, being very near present settlements. The price of Crown lands is \$40 (£8 sterling) per 100 acres.

*New Brunswick.*—Crown lands may be acquired as follows :—(1.) Free grants of 100 acres, by settlers over 18 years of age, on the condition of improving the land to the extent of £4 in three months; building a house 16 ft. by 20 ft. and cultivating two acres within one year; and continuous residence and cultivation of 10 acres within three years. (2.) One hundred acres are given to any settler over 18 years of age who pays £4 in cash, or does work on the public roads, &c., equal to £2 per annum for three years. Within two years a house 16 ft. by 20 ft. must be built, and 2 acres of land cleared. Continuous residence for three years from date of entry, and 10 acres cultivated in that time, is also required. (3.) Single applications may be made for not more than 200 acres of Crown lands without conditions of settlement. These are put up to public auction at an upset price of 4s. 2d. per acre; purchase-money to be paid at once; cost of survey to be paid by purchaser.

*Quebec.*—Lands purchased from the Government are to be paid for in the following manner :—One-fifth of the purchase-money is required to be paid the day of the sale, and the remainder in four equal yearly instalments, bearing interest at 6 per cent. The price at which the lands are sold is from 20 cents to 60 cents per acre (15d. to 2s. 5½d. stg.). The purchaser is required to take possession of the land sold within six months of the date of the sale, and to occupy it within two years. He must clear, in the course of ten years, ten acres for every hundred held by him, and erect a habitable house of the dimensions of at least 16 ft. by 20 ft. The letters patent are issued free of charge. The parts of the Province of Quebec now inviting colonisation are the Lake St. John district; the valleys of the Saguenay, St. Maurice, and the Ottawa Rivers; the Eastern Townships; the Lower St. Lawrence; and Gaspé.

*Ontario.*—Any head of a family, whether male or female, having children under 18 years of age, can obtain a grant of 200 acres; and a single man over 18 years of age, or a married man having no children under 18 residing with him.



can obtain a grant of 100 acres. This land is mostly covered with forest, and is situated in the northern and north-western parts of the province. Such a person may also purchase an additional 100 acres at 50 cents per acre, cash. The settlement duties are—to have 15 acres on each grant cleared and under crop at the end of the first five years, of which at least 2 acres are to be cleared annually; to build a habitable house, at least 16 feet by 20 feet in size; and to reside on the land at least six months in each year. In the Rainy River district, to the west of Lake Superior, consisting of well-watered uncleared land, free grants are made of 160 acres to a head of a family having children under 18 years of age residing with him (or her); and 120 acres to a single man over 18, or to a married man not having children under 18 residing with him; each person obtaining a free grant to have the privilege of purchasing 40 acres additional, at the rate of one dollar per acre, payable in four annual instalments.

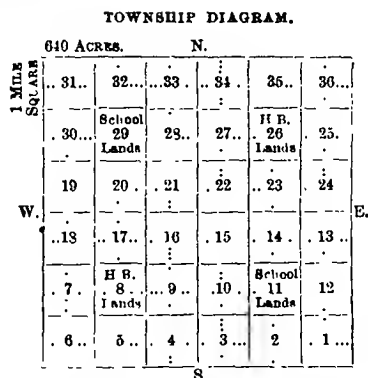
*Manitoba and North-West Territories.*—Free grants of one quarter-section (160 acres) of surveyed agricultural land may be obtained by any person who is the sole head of a family, or by any male who has attained the age of 18 years, on application to the local agent of Dominion lands, and on payment of an office fee of \$10. At the time of making entry the homesteader must declare under which of the three following provisions he elects to hold his land, and on making application for patent must prove that he has fulfilled the conditions named therein:—

1. By making entry and within six months thereafter erecting a habitable house and commencing actual residence upon the land, and continuing to reside upon it for at least six months in each year for the three next succeeding years, and doing reasonable cultivation duties during that period.
2. By making entry for the land, cultivating it for three successive years, so that at the end of that period not less than 40 acres be under cultivation; residing for at least six months in each year during that time within a radius of two miles of the homestead; and erecting a house upon the homestead and residing in it for three months next preceding the application for patent.
3. By making entry, and within six months from the date thereof commencing the cultivation of the homestead; breaking and preparing for crop within the first year not less than five acres; cropping the said five acres, and breaking and preparing for crop not less than 10 acres in addition, and erecting a habitable house thereon before the expiration of the second year, and thereafter residing therein and cultivating the land for at least six months of each of the three years next prior to the date of the application for patent.

Persons making entry for homesteads on or after September 1st in any year are allowed until June 1st following to perfect their entries by going into actual residence. The only charge for a homestead of 160 acres is the entrance fee of \$10. In certain cases forfeited pre-emptions and cancelled homesteads are available for homesteads, but slightly additional fees are demanded from the settlers in each case, and when abandoned pre-emptions are taken up they are required to perform specified conditions of settlement. Full information can be obtained from the local agents. In the event of a homesteader desiring to secure his patent within a shorter period than the three or five years, as the case may be, he will be permitted to purchase his homestead at the Government price at the time, on furnishing proof that he has resided on the land for at least 12 months subsequent to date of entry, and has cultivated 80 acres thereof.

The following diagram shows the manner in which the country is surveyed. It represents a township—that is, a tract of land six miles square, containing

36 sections of one mile square each. These sections are subdivided into quarter-sections of 160 acres each.



The right of pre-emption has ceased to exist, having been altogether discontinued after 1st January, 1890

Information respecting timber, mineral, coal, grazing and hay lands, may be obtained from any of the land agents. Homesteaders in the first year of settlement are entitled to free permits to cut a specified quantity of timber for their own use only, upon payment of an office fee of 25 cents.

It must be distinctly understood that the land regulations are subject to variation from time to time. Settlers should take care to obtain from the land agent, when making their entry, an explanation of the actual regulations in force at that time, and the clause of the Act under which the entry is made endorsed upon the receipt, so that no question or difficulty may then or thereafter arise.

*List of Dominion Land Agents in Manitoba and North-West Territories*

| Name of Agent.      | Name of District.   | Agency.         | Post Office Address of Agent. |
|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| A. H. Whitcher ...  | Winnipeg ...        | Dominion Lands. | Winnipeg, Manitoba.           |
| W. M. Hilliard ...  | Little Saskatchewan |                 | Minnedosa, "                  |
| W. G. Pentland ...  | Birtle ...          |                 | Birtle, "                     |
| W. H. Hiam ..       | Souris ...          |                 | Brandon, "                    |
| John Flesher ...    | Turtle Mountain ... |                 | Deloraine, "                  |
| W. H. Stevenson...  | Qu'Appelle ...      |                 | Regina, Assiniboia, N.W.T     |
| John McTaggart ...  | Prince Albert ..    |                 | Pr. Albert, Saskatchewan, "   |
| C. E. Phipps...     | Coteau ...          |                 | Cannington, Assiniboia, "     |
| E. Brokovski...     | Battleford ...      |                 | Battleford, Saskatchewan, "   |
| Amos Rowe ...       | Calgary ...         |                 | Calgary, Alberta, "           |
| P. V. Ganvreau ...  | Edmonton ...        |                 | Edmonton, "                   |
| E. G. Kirhy ...     | Lethbridge ...      |                 | Lethbridge, "                 |
| T. B. Ferguson ...  | Tonchwood ...       |                 | Saltcoats, Assiniboia, "      |
| E. F. Stephenson... | Winnipeg ...        | Crown Timber.   | Winnipeg, Manitoba.           |
| Thos. Anderson ...  | Edmonton ...        |                 | Edmonton, Alberta, N.W.T.     |
| C. L. Gouin ...     | Calgary ...         |                 | Calgary, Alberta, "           |
| John McTaggart ..   | Prince Albert...    |                 | Pr. Albert, Saskatchewan, "   |

*British Columbia.*—In this province any British subject who is the head of a family, a widow, or a single man over 18 years, may, by paying a fee of 8s. 4d., acquire the right, from the Provincial Government, to not more than 320 acres of Crown lands north and east of the Cascades, and 160 acres elsewhere. The price is 4s. 2d. an acre, payable by four annual instalments. The conditions are—(1) personal residence of the settler, or his family or agent; (2) improvements to be made of the value of 10s. 6d. an acre. Lands from 160 to 640 acres may also be bought at 10s. 6d. an acre, without conditions of residence or improvements.

The Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Syndicate have not yet fully arranged the terms upon which they will dispose of their unoccupied lands. They own about 1,500,000 acres, but they are much broken up by rock and mountains.

The land belonging to the Dominion Government begins near the sea-board, runs through the New Westminster district, and up the Fraser valley to Lytton; thence it runs up the Thompson River valley, past Kamloops and through Eagle Pass, across the northern part of Kootenay district to the eastern frontier of British Columbia. The country is laid out in townships in the same way as in Manitoba and the North-West Territories. The quarter-sections may be purchased at a price now fixed at \$2.50 (10s.) per acre, subject to change by Order in Council. They may be "homesteaded" by settlers who intend to reside on them. A registration fee of \$10 (£2) is charged at the time of application. Six months is allowed in which to take possession, and at the end of three years, on proof of residence and cultivation, he acquires a patent on payment of \$1 per acre for the land. If preferred, the homesteader can hold his land for the first two years after entry by cultivating from eight to fifteen acres (the former if the land is timbered, and the latter if it is not so encumbered). During the three years next thereafter he must reside upon it as well as cultivate it. Homestead grants of 160 acres (price \$1 per acre) can also be obtained for the culture of fruit. In case of illness, or of necessary absence from the homestead during the three years, additional time will be granted to the settler to conform to the Government regulations. These conditions apply to agricultural lands. The Dominion Land Agent for British Columbia is Mr. H. B. W. Aikman, New Westminster.

In addition to the free-grant lands available in Manitoba and the North-West Territories, several companies have large blocks of land which they offer for disposal at reasonable rates, from \$2.50 up to \$10 per acre. Among others, the Canadian Pacific Railway Company (Land Commissioner, Mr. L. A. Hamilton, Winnipeg) has about 14 millions of acres; and the Hudson Bay Company (Land Commissioner, Mr. Lawson, Winnipeg) has also a considerable area. The same remark applies to the Canada North-West Land Company (Land Commissioner, Mr. W. B. Scarth, M.P., Winnipeg) and the Manitoba and North-Western Railway Company (Land Commissioner, Mr. A. F. Eden, Winnipeg); and there are several other companies. The Alberta Coal and Railway Company also own nearly a million acres of land in the District of Alberta. The prices of these lands vary according to position, but in most cases the terms of purchase are easy, and arranged in annual instalments, spread over a number of years.

In all the provinces improved farms may be purchased at reasonable prices—that is, farms on which buildings have been erected and a portion of the land cultivated. The following are the average prices in the different provinces, the prices being regulated by the position of the farms, the nature and extent of the buildings, and contiguity to towns and railways:—Prince Edward Island, from £4 to £7 per acre; Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Quebec, from £2 to £10; Ontario, from £2 to £20; Manitoba and the North-West Territories, from £1 to £10; and British Columbia, from £2 to £15. These farms become vacant for the reasons which are explained with accuracy in many of the accompanying reports. They are most suitable for persons possessed of some means, who desire more of the social surroundings than can be obtained in those parts of the various provinces in which Government lands are still available for occupation and settlement.

Canada has already assumed an important position as an agricultural country, and the value of its exports of such products alone now nearly reaches \$40,000,000 annually, in addition to the immense quantity required for home consumption. The principal items of farm and dairy produce exported in 1889—the latest returns available—were: Horned cattle, \$5,708,126; horses, \$2,170,722; sheep, \$1,263,125; butter, \$331,958; cheese, \$8,915,684; eggs, \$1,851,503; flour, \$646,068; green fruit, \$1,604,203; barley, \$6,464,589; pease, \$1,449,417; wheat, \$471,121; potatoes, \$287,763. In many respects 1889 was not a favourable year, and if other years were taken, the exports, particularly of food-stuffs, would be considerably larger than those given above. Besides the articles specially enumerated, a considerable export trade was done in bacon and hams, beef, lard, mutton, pork, poultry, and other meats, as well as in beans, Indian corn, oats, malt, oatmeal, flour-meal, bran, and tomatoes. The chief importers of Canadian produce at the present time are Great Britain and the United States, but an endeavour is being made, and so far with success, to extend the trade with the mother country, and to open up new markets in other parts of the world. The products of the fisheries, the mines, and the forests are also exported to a large annual value; and the manufacturing industry is a most important and increasing one, especially in the eastern provinces, and includes almost every article that can be mentioned.

In many of the reports mention is made of the money system, and the weights and measures, obtaining in the Dominion. The dollar, which is, roughly speaking, of the value of 4s. 2d., contains 100 cents, equal to  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. each. The following are the coins in use:—Copper, 1 cent;

silver, 5 cents, 10 cents, 25 cents, and 50 cents. Paper money is also much in use, and is redeemable at any time at its par value. The following are the standard weights of a bushel of the various products:—Wheat, 60 lbs.; Indian corn, 56 lbs.; rye, 56 lbs.; pease, 60 lbs.; barley (six-rowed), 48 lbs.; malt, 36 lbs.; oats, 34 lbs.; beans, 60 lbs.; potatoes and other vegetables, 60 lbs. The hundredweight and ton are fixed by statute at 100 lbs. and 2,000 lbs. respectively.

It is not necessary to extend this preface, or to summarise the various reports; they must be allowed to speak for themselves. They deal with Canada as it was seen by practical agriculturists, and refer not only to its advantages, but to its disadvantages, for no country is without the latter in some shape or form. It may safely be said, however, that Canada has fewer drawbacks than many other parts of the world; and this is borne out by the favourable opinions that are generally expressed by the delegation. Those who read the reports of the farmers who visited Canada in 1879 and 1880, will realise that immense progress has been made since that time—when the vast region west of Winnipeg was only accessible by railway for a short distance, and direct communication with Eastern Canada, through British territory, was not complete.

The Canadian Government, in inviting the delegation, wished to place before the public, information of a reliable and independent character as to the prospects the Dominion offers for the settlement of persons desiring to engage in agricultural pursuits, and it is believed that its efforts will be as much appreciated now as they were ten years ago. In Great Britain and Ireland the area of available land is limited, and there is a large and ever-increasing population; while at the same time Canada has only a population of about 5,000,000, and hundreds of millions of acres of the most fertile land in the world, simply waiting for population to cultivate it, capable of yielding in abundance all the products of a temperate climate for the good of mankind. It only remains to be said that any persons, of the classes to whom Canada presents so many opportunities, who decide to remove their homes to the Dominion, will receive a warm welcome in any part of the country, and will at once realise that they are not strangers in a strange land, but among fellow British subjects, with the same language, customs, and loyalty to the Sovereign, that are the characteristics of the old country.

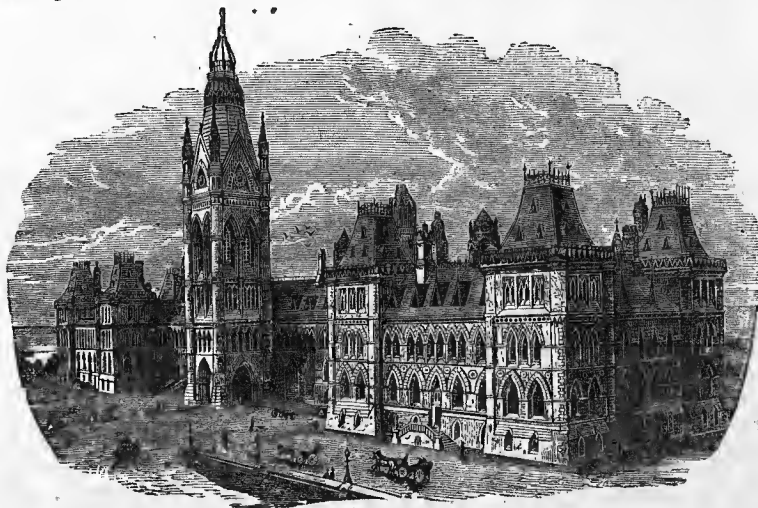
## THE REPORT OF MR. ARTHUR DANIEL,

172, Dereham Road, Norwich.

HAVING been chosen by Sir C. Tupper as one of the farmer delegates to visit Canada for the purpose of ascertaining the resources of the country and its suitability for emigrants, I have to report that I left Liverpool on the 28th of August, in the Allan steamship "Circassian," and arrived in Montreal on the 8th of September.

As this Report will doubtless be read by many who have no idea of the extent of the Dominion of Canada, I will briefly describe the extent of our journey. From Montreal we travelled to Ottawa and Toronto, where we were met by Mr. G. H. Campbell, who acted as pilot for the remainder of the journey.

Having had a special railway car placed at our service, our pilot gave the word of command, "All aboard," and we started for the Great North-West. After having travelled some 700 miles, and when near Thunder Bay—remarkable for its grand scenery—we experienced one of the many slight railway accidents so often heard of in the New World; but luckily for us, it proved to be comparatively harmless, for, with the exception of the engine leaving the track, and the five hours' delay, no one in the train suffered further inconvenience than having one's breakfast emptied into one's lap. Then we proceeded on our way to Winnipeg, Carman, Glenborough, Souris, Brandon, Rapid City, Minnedosa, Saltcoats, Portage-la-Prairie, Regina, Prince Albert, Calgary, Banff, New Westminster, Vancouver, and Victoria. Thence we retraced our steps to Old England, where I arrived on the 22nd of November, having travelled 16,000 miles by water and rail, and 1,000 by road.



PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS, OTTAWA.

*General Description of Places Visited.*—Upon arriving at Ottawa, we were shown over the Parliament Houses, a very fine block of buildings standing upon rising ground, and commanding a grand view of the city and river, with its immense water power, from which is not only derived the force to drive the very extensive water works, and the electric machinery with which the city is lighted, but also several immense lumber mills. It was marvellous to see with what ease and speed the logs, which had been floated down the stream, were taken out of the river into the mill and reduced to small boards, splines, and shingles (roofing material)—a process which only occupies a few minutes.

We next visited the Experimental Farm near Ottawa, where we saw some very fine samples of both wheat and oats, especially of the latter. I was informed they averaged about 55 bushels per acre. We also saw some good pieces of mangolds, swedes, and carrots. The stock on this farm was fairly good.

We next proceeded to Toronto, where the annual Industrial Exhibition was being held. This is, in fact, an agricultural show in the best sense of the term, in combination with an exhibition of every kind of machinery, of raw materials, and of manufactured products, supplemented, to make it more attractive to the pleasure-loving section of the community, by amusements of the most varied character. What interested us greatly was the competitions for fast-trotting and high-jumping horses. One trotter went a mile in 2 minutes 25 seconds, and a jumper cleared 7 ft. 1 in. Dogs of various breeds were also trotted in harness. The cattle, sheep, and pigs were, on the whole, very good, and would not have disgraced any showyard in England. Some very useful Clydesdales and Shire horses were shown, but the roadsters were not of a class that would sell in this country, as their great merit is speed, and not style. We saw two imported hackney stallions—"Young Nobleman," by "D'Oyley's Confidence," and "Norfolk Hero," by "Perfection." In my opinion these had the best style and action of anything in the Show. Wheat, barley, oats, and all kinds of vegetables from Manitoba and British Columbia were especially good. There was likewise a very fine collection of grains and fruit from Ontario.

We next proceeded to the Ontario Agricultural College, at Guelph (supported by the Provincial Government), where we met Professor Roberts, who showed us over the College and farm. Here we saw some good cattle, especially a Hereford bull, which was purchased from the Queen's herd, and a Shorthorn bull of the Booth blood. Experiments were being made at the College upon the feeding of pigs. The College is built to accommodate about 90 pupils, who pay £21 per year, and \$3 per week for board. They do most of the work on the farm, for which they are paid: and if they work the whole time, their pay will cover almost all expenses. This I consider to be a good institution. The pupils are taught the scientific, as well as the practical, part of farming; and altogether the College affords an example which might well be followed in this country. We next went to Moreton Lodge—Mr. Stone's—and saw his herd of Herefords—a good lot; as also were Mr. Thos. McCrae's

Galloways, on the adjoining farm. Taking a short journey into the county of York, I observed that most of the land through which I passed, as well as that around Guelph, was not as well farmed as we are accustomed to see in Norfolk, and would be all the better for under-draining. At all the places I visited in Ontario I found the same kind of farming. Wheat and oats are their chief crops, and in many cases they seem to rather neglect raising stock. It is only right to say, however, that large quantities of cattle and sheep are exported from Ontario, as well as cheese. A large portion of the farms, on which cattle were not kept to any extent, showed signs of over-cropping. A great many of the farms were at the time of our visit in the market, owing to many of the farmers with growing families desiring to go to the North-West, where their capital would enable them to establish their families in a more satisfactory manner. This land, from what I could learn, was in many instances heavily mortgaged, and the prices asked for it almost as high as for land in England. My observation was that those farmers who went in for stock-raising were much the better off. I visited Oakville and Hamilton, large fruit-growing districts, the chief produce of which are apples, pears, and grapes; but only in a few cases did I find these small farms well cultivated. At the Hon. John Dryden's well-cultivated farm at Brooklin, we saw a good lot of Shorthorns. This farm is a striking contrast to the greater part of the surrounding country, which is not so well farmed as it might be.

We next took train to Winnipeg, the capital of Manitoba. It contains a population of 28,000, and at one time made great strides; but it has not recently continued at the same rate of progress, owing to the "boom" which took place in the years 1881-83. Most of the lands around for several miles are held by speculators, and when the "boom burst," the land was left on their hands, and is likely so to remain for some time to come at the price asked for it, owing to the quantity of free land available. The result of this speculation has been to cause an amount of stagnation, with a consequent arrest of the development of the surrounding neighbourhood.

Winnipeg has some fine buildings, including the City Hall, Post Office, churches, schools, several large hotels, and banks. It also boasts of a weekly market, where all kinds of meat, fowls, dairy produce, and vegetables are sold, the prices being—Beef, from 6d. to 7½d. per lb.; fowls, 2s. 6d. to 2s. 9d. per pair; butter, 7d. per lb. Fruit here is very dear, owing to the heavy rail carriage, for it all has to come either from British Columbia or Ontario. Travelling on to Carman and Glenborough, we passed through a good district of land, the greater part of it occupied, so that very little was left for free homesteads. At Carman we went over a grain elevator, or general granary, where the farmers from the surrounding country were delivering their wheat. We stayed at Glenborough one day, driving out to Craigilea and Belmont, where we found the land very good for mixed farming, having a good supply of water. We visited some of the new settlers, amongst whom were several crofters, and almost all of them expressed themselves well satisfied with their lot and with the country. From all appearances they were doing well. Driving thence to Souris, we



found that most of the land had been taken up by settlers, who were all doing well. Here for the first time I saw a good band of about 250 sheep, the best lot I had seen in Canada, except a few pure-breds in Ontario. The corn was chiefly out in "stook," and looked a very good crop, yielding good samples of both wheat and oats. Here we saw a few pieces that had been touched by a frost in August. At Souris a large quantity of the land is held by a company, who are willing to sell at from \$10 to \$20 per acre.



PLOUGHING AT SANDISON'S FARM, BRANDON.

Brandon, which we visited, is a rising city, with a population of 5,400. It has well-built houses, several grain elevators, a flour mill, and a lumber mill. A large trade is done here in grain from the country around, which is generally under cultivation, producing a very large quantity. We here visited the holding of a very successful Scotchman, farming 1,900 acres, 1,200 of which were in grain, from which he expected to get an average of 22 bushels of wheat and 50 of oats per acre. He stated that five years since he was not worth 50 cents, that his best friends were those that lent him money at 8 per cent., and that he would not now take £6,000 for his holding. He had two threshers running, on wheat, at the rate of two bushels in 43 seconds. From the machine it was carted straight to the elevator, where a charge of two cents per bushel is made for cleaning and storing. No stock except horses was kept on this farm, which took 37 to work it. The system adopted on this farm is that of two grain crops in succession, and one long fallow. Under this process almost all the land is prepared during the summer and autumn for the next year's crop. This is the great secret of success. To get good crops the land requires to be sown as early as possible, in order to enable the crop to reach a

certain stage of maturity to withstand possible frosts in August, with which they are sometimes visited. No manure is used on this farm; all the straw and stubble are burnt, because the climate being so dry, there



THRESHING AT SANDISON'S FARM, BRANDON.

is an absence of the moisture necessary for the speedy decomposition of vegetable matter.

Meeting Mr. Bedford, I saw on the Government Experimental Farm, of which he is manager, some good samples of two-rowed barley—so good that I fear there have been few like them produced in England this year. But from the situation of this farm I do not consider they can be regarded as a fair criterion of the capabilities of the surrounding country for barley-growing, as the farm is on the river bank, and has consequently a more moist situation, better adapted for the growth of barley—the seasons of this country being short and hot. South towards Brandon Hills, the country seemed to have been taken up, and well farmed. At the foot of the hills is a good country for mixed farming. A drive of 25 miles through a good corn country brought us to Rapid City, where there is a woollen mill, on the river, doing a small trade. We then took train for Minnedosa and Saltcoats, whence we drove round Langenburg, and called upon several farmers who had been out only from two to four years. Most of them emigrated with very little capital indeed; some had their passages paid for them. We met English, Scotch, and Irish families, who all appeared to be doing very well. One man who went out with two sons had 840 acres, 300 of which were in with corn. He commenced by borrowing £200 at 8 per cent., all of which he had paid off, so that he had become completely master of the situation. Another who had been out three years had 160 acres—60 acres of grain—eight head of cattle, and two

working oxen. Another, who had 160 acres, went out without any money. His corn crop was worth £200. He had also 16 head of cattle, worth £6 each. A fourth, with two small children and no money, borrowed £100, and though he had only been out three years, he had 15 acres of wheat out of 160 acres, five cows, two oxen, and four sheep.

An Irishman who landed with 75 cents, but had borrowed £100 from the company, had 160 acres—50 acres with wheat—27 head of cattle, and was free from all liabilities. A Norfolk man—Mr. Knotts, from Watton—with three small children, who had been out two and a half years, borrowed £100 from the company, and had now got 27 acres of wheat and oats, and 11 acres more broken for next year, two working oxen, four cows, five steers, sow and pigs, four big pigs, and 150 head of poultry. When asked if he could meet his payments, he replied that he could be free from debt next year. This man stated that anyone coming out to this part of Canada could be worth £300 in three years, even if he had to borrow the money to make a start. All these people said they liked the country, and did not mind the winters, as the cold did not affect the children.

We next visited Mr. Kennerton's new ranch of 9,000 acres, on which were 57 head of cattle and 40 horses, and a house and buildings which had cost £1,000. This ranch joins Langenburg Station. Around Saltcoats we called on a great number of farmers, most of whom have been out three years, and have got homesteads of 160 acres each, of which about 25 were planted with grain, while they had an average of eight head of cattle each. The greater part of them commenced with but little capital, and had to borrow. All expressed themselves satisfied with their lot.

We visited Dr. Barnardo's Home at Russell. It occupies an elevated position. There were 60 boys at the time of our visit in the Home. Several had been placed out with farmers, and only in two or three instances had they come back to the Home. A large herd of cows and cattle and a band of sheep are kept at the Home, where the boys do most of the work. There is also a creamery attached to the Home, where the boys are taught to make butter. This appears to be a good and well-conducted institution.

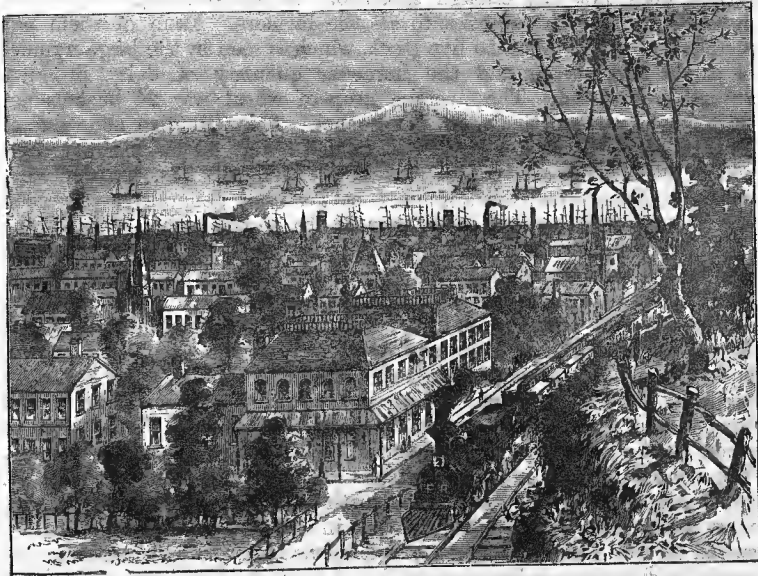
At the Binscarth Farm, which belongs to one of the Scotch land companies, we were shown a fine lot of Shorthorns. Everything here seemed to be well done. At Birtle we experienced the result of the prohibitory Liquor Law, for we could get nothing to drink but green tea, sour milk, and water that could not be called good. Here I met several young men from the old country, who did not appear very contented with their lot; although, on the other hand, I met many who were. At Portage-la-Prairie we struck a good tract of land, but it had the appearance of being over-cropped. Most of the people here are doing well.

Thence we went to Indian Head, where is situated the famous Bell Farm, which, like most other great speculations in farming and ranching, appears to be a failure, though from what cause it is difficult to say. We were told by some that it is owing to mismanagement, and

from what I saw I quite believe that a great deal may be attributed to this cause. Moreover, we heard of absurd things being practised on one of these large farms further west, such as buying 40 new water-carts for the purpose of watering the crops when the sun was 90 degrees in the shade. It is said that the season in 1889 being dry, this was tried as an experiment. We here obtained information that the chief of the land adjoining the railway from Virden to Broadview is held by speculators. This will prove a serious drawback to settlement; for, like Winnipeg, these places are at a standstill, as the new settlers are obliged to take up land a long way from the rail. But this will right itself, as all this unsold land is subject to taxation. At Regina we saw some very fine specimens of roots and potatoes, which were good all through the North-West. From Regina to Calgary the land appears to be of the same character. Prince Albert, to which the rail had been only just opened, is destined to become a rising place.

On our way to Calgary we passed through, at Rush Lake, the first of the farms of Sir Lister Kaye, about which the agricultural world has heard so much. The concern was two or three years since turned over to a company, under the title of the "Canadian Coal and Colonisation Company." These farms—ten in number—consist of 10,000 acres each, and are situated at intervals of 30 miles between Rush Lake and Calgary. At the latter place we obtained further experience of horse, cattle, and sheep ranching—an occupation which, except in a few instances, does not appear to have been so far very remunerative.

We next visited British Columbia, staying a day at Banff. in



VANCOUVER.

the Rockies, whence we proceeded to New Westminster, where there are large salmon and fruit canning establishments. The land about here is good, but very heavily timbered. Vancouver, though only five years old, is a grand city, the most promising place in British Columbia, and will eventually do a large shipping trade with Australia, Japan, and China. Although of mushroom growth, Vancouver can boast of two newspapers, handsome churches, schools, and fine hotels. The city is not only lighted by electricity, but also has electric tram-cars. Victoria, the end of our journey West, is beautifully situated on rising ground, has several fine buildings, and has the character of being the most English-like of any place we visited. There is a large Chinese population, but they do not increase very fast, as the number who return to the Flowery Land nearly equals the number of immigrants.

*Soils and Productions.*—The soils of the old provinces vary from a light to a heavy loam; but the light, sandy loam predominates. The chief crops are wheat, barley, oats, peas, and maize. Of late years, peas have been more extensively grown. I account for this from the fact that in a great measure the land had been cropped so often without manure, with wheat and oats, that it had almost worn itself out for those cereals; consequently, a great many farmers have fallen back on peas. The land, for the most part, was not, in my opinion, as well cultivated as it might have been, with advantage to the owners, or as we are accustomed to at home; each man trying to cultivate more than he could manage without help, which is rather difficult to hire. The farmer does not pay enough attention to stock-raising. I do not mean to say that this applies to all the farmers. Many of them pay a good deal of attention to live stock, which is seen by the large number of cattle and sheep, and the immense quantity of dairy products annually exported. The average crop of wheat was 24 bushels per acre, which was worth 3s. 6d. per bushel. This will give the value of an acre of wheat at £4 4s. Oats yielded about 40 bushels per acre, which at 1s. 10d. per bushel makes the value £3 13s. 4d. per acre. Owing to the hot and short summer, oats are not generally a very good sample, and seldom weigh more than 34 lbs. to the bushel, which is the standard weight. But owing to the Government importing some different kinds of seed from our large seedsmen in England, the quality has been very much improved of late. I saw some very good samples of oats weighing 42 lbs. to the bushel, grown at the different Experimental Farms. The four-rowed barley is the chief kind grown, but it is not so plump and good-looking in sample as the variety produced in this country. It is very bright, but much thinner and harder than ours, owing to the hot and short summer causing it to ripen quicker. Up to now it has all been sold to American brewers. The average yield is about 24 bushels per acre, and it is worth 2s. 9d. per bushel, giving £3 6s. as the worth of an acre. Experiments are now going on all over the country in growing a variety of barley suited to the English market, and it seems likely to be a success. In most districts we saw large quantities of fruit under culture, comprising apples, pears, and grapes—the latter coming to perfection trained on

wire extended on posts in the open field. These crops appear to be very remunerative.

The soil and products in Manitoba and the North-West differ much from those of the older provinces. The soil consists of a dark vegetable loam of great depth, and capable of producing grain for many years to come without the application of manure. Here we found the chief crops to be wheat, oats, and potatoes. The latter, though only grown in small quantities, are very fine, and of good quality. Wheat is the chief crop, and averages, at a low estimate, from 18 to 20 bushels per acre; and as it is worth 3s. 4d. per bushel, this gives £3 6s. 8d. as the value per acre. Oats yield 40 bushels per acre, and are worth 1s. 6d. per bushel of 34 lbs., which gives £3 as the value of an acre of oats.

We also found throughout the Dominion creameries established, for the production of butter and cheese. These creameries are a great advantage to the small settlers, who have very little time to make their own butter and cheese. An enormous trade is done in the exportation of products, much of which finds its way to the English market. Yankee traders send a lot of their cheeses to Canada for shipment, so that they may get the benefit of the reputation of the Canadian products. Could the Canadians have their own brand duly recognised in the English market, our kindred in the Dominion would have a much greater demand from this country for those products, which are superior to those of the States.

The prairie district is one vast tract of level grass country, destitute of timber, and without fruit trees; but many of our small fruits are indigenous to the soil, and experiments are being made to introduce varieties of apples and pears and general trees that will suit the climate.

The climate and soil of British Columbia very much resemble the climate and soil of England. Large tracts of land lying in the different valleys of the Fraser River are very fertile, capable of growing large crops of grain, hay, fruit, and vegetables of all descriptions. In one of these valleys (Okanagan) we were told that 25 tons of binding twine had been consumed this year. This, on an average of 4 lbs. to the acre, would represent 12,500 acres of corn, which at 20 bushels per acre gives 250,000 bushels. Calculating this at 3s. 4d. per bushel, the total value of the corn grown in that valley would be £41,666. Fruit also appears to be very largely grown in British Columbia, which has also an immense wealth in timber and fish, in all of which a large export trade is done. The timber is in some places of very large dimensions. We measured several trunks which girthed from 25 to 40 feet; one even girthed 52 feet. Inside this tree, which had been recently hollowed out by burning, we found a seat 12 feet long, placed there for the convenience of the public. We estimated that one acre of this timber, which is burnt down to clear the land, would, in England, be worth from £4,000 to £5,000.

*Stock.*—In addition to corn-growing, a large quantity of stock is raised in the Dominion, not only upon small farms, but upon large ranches, especially in the North-West. In the older provinces there are several lots of pure-bred cattle, sheep, and pigs, which find ready markets, not

only at home, but in the States and the North-West. The introduction of pure-bred cattle, with judicious crossing, has very much improved the native breeds, which are large-boned animals, and well adapted for working, especially on the prairie, where, it is said, they break the land better than horses. We saw, in the course of our travels through the West, very striking instances of the good done by these imported cattle. Almost all the small farmers aim at getting some good blood into their stock. We came upon a good herd of Shorthorns at the Binscarth Farm, at Russell, Manitoba. This herd is sure to do a great deal of good, as it is located in the midst of a large tract of land well suited for mixed farming. On all the small prairie farms, where stock has been raised, the owners speak very highly of the prairie grass, stating that they can raise for \$6 a three-year-old steer which will fetch \$35. But cattle-raising in the North-West falls under two headings—those raised on large ranches, and those raised by small farmers, who house them during the winter, feeding them on hay, straw, and in some cases a few roots. This kind of farming pays very well, and the farmers who adopt this course are much better off than those who keep to corn-growing only. We met several lots of cattle on their way to England, some of them having been collected by dealers from small farmers, while some had been brought from the ranches. Cattle-raising on the ranches is quite different to cattle-raising on farms. The ranches each comprise many thousands of acres, and on them the cattle are allowed to roam at pleasure without any shelter during the severe winters, consequently the loss is now and then very great, in some instances exceeding 25 per cent. This, on the whole, so far has not been a paying business, as we heard of several failures; and in only one case (that of a company) did we hear of a dividend being paid on the capital expended. It is only right to say that the people at work engaged in the business have had to contend with a new climate, and have had to get their experience. They seem hopeful, too, that they will succeed; and the number of cattle is increasing every year. In the last two years several thousands have been sent to our markets, and this trade will no doubt develop. With proper attention to shelter and winter feed there is no reason why the ranches should not answer.

Sheep-ranching is not carried on so extensively, but in no one instance did I hear that sheep-ranching is profitable, while I heard of no end of failures. Canada is not a country where sheep-raising can be carried on to any large extent, owing to the breeders being obliged to house them during the long winter. I notice, however, that for many years past the average number of sheep exported has exceeded 300,000. In 15 years, 5,000,000 sheep have been sent to this country and the United States, but they come largely from Ontario and Quebec.

Horse-ranching, with good management, is a paying business. On one ranch we visited there were several imported stallions, and 130 mares from Ireland. The imported mares—even those from Ontario—did not breed well for the first few years. This naturally entailed a great loss of time, and outlay of capital. In my opinion, with imported stallions, and good native mares, a useful general purpose horse can be bred, sure to meet with a good demand in the market.

*Rents, Taxes, and Labour.*—Rents in the old provinces vary from 12s. per acre to 30s., including taxes, which are very light. Most of the farmers, however, own their own land. The rents and taxes in Manitoba are nominal, almost every man farming his own land. But labour is rather scarce, and as a rule commands good wages; for instance, masons or bricklayers get from \$2½ to \$3 per day; carpenters, from \$2 to \$2½; while the common labourer gets from \$1½ to \$2 per day. This is the general pay. The food ranges about the same as here. Clothing, if made from imported cloth, is dearer than it is at home; if made from Canadian cloth, it is about the same price as here, but not so good in quality. House rent is also dearer.

*Education.*—One would think that in so young a country education would be much neglected, but this is not the case. The system carried out in Canada far surpasses our own, and, moreover, is entirely free.

*Conclusions.*—What, it may be asked, are the general and broad impressions left upon me by my visit to Canada? First of all, I would reply there is the impression of a vast territory, capable of yielding boundless mineral and agricultural wealth, if capital and labour can be brought to bear upon it, and railway communication is extended to bring the products within reach of the teeming population of the overgrown Old World. One is strongly struck with the conviction that there is in Canada a wide field open to all who are willing to avail themselves of the opportunity offered—whether it is the farm labourer possessing nothing more than his pair of hands, after his passage out has been paid for him, or the capitalist with several thousands of pounds to invest. Both can readily find employment—the one for his labour, the other for his cash—in this vast territory, extending some 3,000 miles from east to west, and 1,500 from north to south. Of course the emigrant who has capital will have the better chance, though we were frequently told—and we found many instances of it—that a man accustomed to work the land often does succeed without having the advantage of possessing any money of his own with which to commence operations. Instances are numerous in which men brought up on the land have gone to Canada with only a few pounds in their pockets (just enough to support them till they can settle down), have taken a free homestead with borrowed money at 8 per cent., and have paid off their liability in three or four years, so that they “owed not any man.” Remember that such a settler, or farmer, has no rent to pay, and no tithe-rent charge to hand over to the parson; while the taxes are nominal—only a few dollars per annum. A farmer's son who has a few hundred pounds, and does not mind work, and a somewhat rough life, can without doubt turn them to good advantage and profit by farming in the North-West. With £300 he could well work 160 acres of land, which he would get as a free grant; and if he should be able to extend his area of labour, he could buy the adjoining 160 acres at a few dollars per acre. He would, however, find the 160 acres sufficient with, say, £300 capital.

Then, again, a man with a capital of from £1,000 to £2,000 would find Canada a country in which it could be profitably employed in agriculture. In the improved farm district of the older provinces land is not to be purchased at less than from \$40 to \$100 per acre, so that



a man with that amount of capital to invest in farming could do just as well in England as sink it in acquiring land at such a figure in Ontario. At the same time, land can be purchased on easy terms; and in the older provinces there are many advantages, especially of a social nature, which a man could not get in a newer part of the country. In Manitoba, and in many parts of the North-West, he could obtain land at such a low price and on such favourable terms of payment that, having no annual outlay in respect thereof, except taxes of a nominal amount, he could grow wheat and oats at a good profit, besides raise a quantity of horses and cattle, which, if taken care of during the winter, would prove to be very remunerative. But he must be prepared to give up many of those home comforts inseparable from an English farmstead, and be ready to encounter a rough life, with a winter of considerable severity (of which, however, the settlers do not seem to complain), in order to make his fortune. Such a man, taking, say, 2,000 acres of land, ought to be able to make money, as the cost of wheat-raising is as under:—

|                                       | s.    | d. |           |
|---------------------------------------|-------|----|-----------|
| Ploughing ... ..                      | 6     | 6  | per acre. |
| Seed ... ..                           | 4     | 0  | „         |
| Sowing and harrowing ... ..           | 3     | 0  | „         |
| Cutting and stooking ... ..           | 4     | 0  | „         |
| Threshing (20 bushels) ... ..         | 3     | 0  | „         |
| Drawing to elevator ... ..            | 3     | 7  | „         |
| Binding twine ... ..                  | 2     | 0  | „         |
|                                       | <hr/> |    |           |
|                                       | £1    | 5  | 1         |
| 20 bushels, at 3s. 4d. per bushel ... | £3    | 6  | 8         |
| Cost of raising ... ..                | 1     | 5  | 1         |
|                                       | <hr/> |    |           |
| Profit ... ..                         | £2    | 1  | 7         |
|                                       | <hr/> |    |           |

In the Province of Alberta horse-ranching would be a paying pursuit if well conducted on a small scale; but ranching for either cattle or sheep I consider rather risky, in view of what we heard—at any rate, until the business is better understood, and managed differently to what it is now. Where it has been in any way successful, it has only been on a small scale, where the animals can be sheltered from the severe winter weather. Nowhere did I hear of success in ranching with sheep; the results were losses and failure; but this may be remedied in time also. Canada further offers a good opening for the mere capitalist who has no intention of embarking in farming. The country is rich in minerals, which are not yet extensively worked, because of the absence of the necessary capital to provide the requisite machinery and labour. The inevitable extension of railway communication which is now going on must lead to the development of the mineral wealth of Canada. The capitalist would find a profitable field of investment by advancing his money on loan on good security, or by establishing a bank. The country is, in fact, waiting for more capital to develop its resources. There is another class who, if unable to gain a living in the old country, would find a country of hope in the Far

West—I mean the artisans, such as masons, bricklayers, and carpenters. In British Columbia, which is unlike other parts of Canada, they would find a climate similar to that of the old country, and would be able to



FARM SCENE.

obtain employment at from \$2½ to \$3 per day. Labourers are paid half that amount. Market gardening would prove very profitable to men in this district.

Many would no doubt embark for Canada but for the imagined discomforts and distress of the sea passage, especially among those who are booked "steerage." What may be the condition of things on other lines of steamers I am unable to say; but from what I saw on those of the Allan line, by which I made the outward and homeward passages, I can say that every care is taken to secure the comfort of the passengers. I made it a point to see how the steerage passengers fared, and never once did I hear of any complaint, while everywhere there was evidence of a regard to cleanliness and comfort, so far as is possible on board a ship. With these steamers the passage to Canada—in fair weather, of course—is very like a pleasure trip.

I would only say, in conclusion, that I shall be happy to give particular information to anyone who may entertain the idea of emigrating to Canada, concerning which, in this brief Report, I have only been able to present a general, but, as I believe, a faithful, picture of the conditions of things there existing.

I am indebted to the courtesy of the Honourable John Carling, Minister of Agriculture, the numerous officials throughout the Dominion, and to the many kind friends who did their best to afford us every facility for seeing holders of land whom we visited.

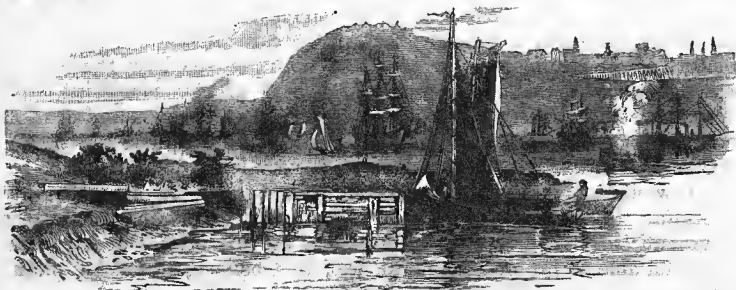
## THE REPORT OF COLONEL FRANCIS FANE,

Fulbeck Hall, Grantham.

THE Canadian Government having resolved, during the autumn of 1890, to invite a number of British farmer delegates to visit the Dominion, for the purpose of examining into, and reporting upon, its merits as a field for emigration, I applied to Sir Charles Tupper, the High Commissioner for Canada resident in England, to be one of the men to be appointed in the above capacity. Sir Charles Tupper was kind enough to grant my request. I left Liverpool in company with several of my brother delegates on board the Allan s.s. "Circassian" on Thursday, 28th August, and landed again at Liverpool from the Allan s.s. "Parisian" on 22nd November, 1890. The results of my observations are embodied in the following extracts from my diary, which was too lengthy to be printed for general circulation:—

Left Liverpool August 28, on the Allan steamer "Circassian," and arrived at Québec on the 8th September. On the voyage had interesting conversations with various emigrants—some who were going out for the first time, and others who were returning to Canada after paying a visit to their friends in Great Britain.

I went over the fore part of the ship with the head steward. As people were recovering, it was very clean. The passengers pay £4 and £6 for steerage and intermediate, and from £12 upwards for cabin. There seems a great difference in price between the two last, as the cabins of the intermediate are very good. Of course the food is not like the "cabin," but all seems wholesome and plentiful. The steerage people sleep, men in hammocks, women in cabins with long trays, holding about 12 in a cabin. I saw all the stores, food, &c., which seemed excellent.



VIEW OF QUÉBEC.

I see a great change in Québec since I saw it in 1866. Many large buildings have been erected, new docks built, and a good part of the

river made dry and turned into wharfs. The streets in the town, however, are as bad as ever. Outside the turnpike gate, very good.

I went over the garden and small farm at Wolfscfield, and was astonished at the luxuriance of the growth of flowers—asters, marigolds, large balsams, sunflowers, and single dahlias—the two latter almost shrubs. Tomatoes grown on sticks like vines in France. The lawn grass was very poor, though much pains was taken with it. The Indian corn, swedes, mangolds, and earrots were quite as good as anything we had in England. Good deal of disease among the potatoes.

Sept. 8.—Left Quebec at 1.30 p.m. for Ottawa.

Sept. 9.—Arrived at Ottawa—11 hours from Quebec. Met the other delegates. Went together to call on Mr. Carling, the Minister of Agriculture. Went with Mr. Small to see the Government Buildings, Water Works, a saw-mill; and after luncheon to the Experimental Farm—450 acres. Saw good specimens of oats grown this year; better than last year's English. Some good barley (Prize Prolific). Excellent swedes.

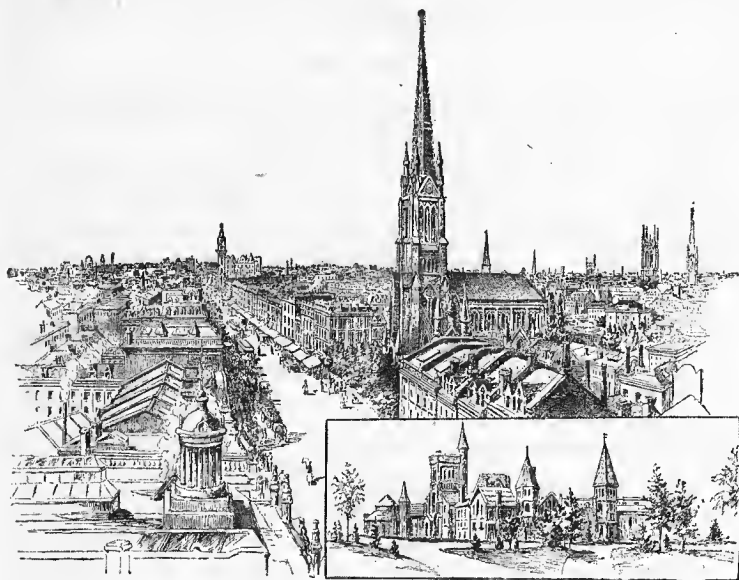
Short white carrots weighed 5 lbs. a couple, about 18 tons grown to acre. ("Canadian Triumph" oats.) Examined several kinds of potatoes in the rows. Curiously, enough the red ones were sound; many of the others had scab. The best were Early Rose, Early Ohio, Lee's Favourite, May Queen. The Schoolmaster and Champions have not done well this year. Yield of the other potatoes was good.

Several bulls are kept, mostly of the Dutch breed; the cows of this breed are supposed to produce most milk. No horses or sheep at present on the farm. All kinds of grasses, trees, &c., are experimented on at this farm; also poultry fattening and breeding. There is also an excellent laboratory, free to all farmers without cost. Much use is also made of Indian corn cut green, with the cob three-quarter ripe, as silo. It is cut with a steam engine, and the stuff carried by an endless chain to the chamber. It is difficult to conceive anything better as silo. The Hon. Mr. Carling, the Minister of Agriculture, was kind enough to show us the Experimental Farm, and he and Mr. Small arranged all matters to make our expedition agreeable. Mr. Carling was kind enough to say that all matters connected with our route, &c., would be left pretty much to ourselves.

From Ottawa I went to Toronto, arriving there at 7 a.m. on the 11th September. At Toronto I stayed with a kind friend, Dr. Grasett, who escorted me to several places of interest in the city, which had grown from a population of 60,000 to 200,000 since I had last seen it.

The great Exhibition of Ontario, or annual Fair, was taking place at this time. This exhibition is not quite like ours; there are numerous buildings, many of them permanent, scattered over about 40 acres of ground on public land  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles from the centre of the town. This property is given over for two months in the year to a large committee, consisting of all the leading inhabitants of Toronto. Here are held exhibitions of horses, cattle, trotters, fruit, dogs, work, agricultural implements, and many other things too numerous to mention. To this are added amusements, lacrosse contests, a "Wild

West" exhibition, acrobats, and also a children's day, when all the children of the district assemble, and amuse and show themselves. There is also a large building filled with stalls containing all the best work of the district.



TORONTO.

On the 12th, I visited the Exhibition. The day was so unfortunate (I had to wade through a sea of mud and water) that I could not see much, and all outdoor amusements, judging, &c., were stopped. It is lucky it is not a three days' affair, like our exhibitions; it goes on for thirteen days.

As soon as I got on the ground, I went to the Central Committee Rooms, where I was most kindly received by the vice-president, Captain McMaster, Mr. Kidout, and others. I afterwards visited the machinery, but saw nothing very new—all implements much lighter than ours. One good plan I remarked, viz.: most of the small machines were worked, for the purpose of exhibition, by either electric or steam power, I don't know which. It explained them much better than we do. I saw a good arrangement for loading sacks out of a winnowing machine, a potato digger, and a very light drill, all made of English steel.

It was almost impossible to see the horses; but I saw a fair Clydesdale stallion—"Nelson," by "Another Day." His stock was very good.

I visited the market, and had interesting conversation with butchers and others. The show of fruit and vegetables, except melons and apples, was poor. This is a very bad year for peaches, but there

were numbers in the market, all from the neighbourhood of Niagara. No salad lettuce can be grown at this time of the year, but they get it in spring and autumn.

The meat looked to me poor and thin: mutton indifferent—mostly called lamb (really young mutton now). Veal seemed good.

The following prices were given to me by a friendly butcher as prices he paid:—

|                                    |                      |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Beef—Live weight ... ..            | 4 cents = 2d.        |
| Dead „ ... ..                      | 7 „ = 8½d.           |
| Leg of Mutton (sold retail) ... .. | 14 „ = 7d.           |
| Fowls (indifferent) .. ...         | 3s. a couple.        |
| Turkeys, at Christmas ... ..       | 12 cents (6d.) a lb. |

Very little what we should call fresh pork used—I mean porkets such as I should kill for house use, of about 70 lbs. a pig, dead weight.

I tasted the butter, all of which seemed sweet and “smell-less,” but very salt. Prices were—16 cents (8d.) a lb., 18 cents (9d.) a lb., and 20 cents (10d.) a lb. The latter was “creamery” butter from the best factories. Cheese, 9½ cents (5d.) a lb.; skimmed milk, 6 cents (3d.). The first cheese seemed good and firm, and not too strong—I should say better than the ordinary cheese we get in village shops in England.

I visited the Fair on several days. It lasted from the 8th to the 20th September. It was well attended always, and one day there were 70,000 people present. There were few police about, and all the people were well dressed and most orderly. During the last week the Exhibition gradually developed, and the show became most excellent. The show of cattle, sheep, and pigs, was most excellent, and would do credit to any exhibition. There were entries in horses, sheep, cattle, and pigs. There was a most excellent dog show in a new building that had cost \$8,000. I was told that the dog show arrangements were superior to anything on this continent. Then there was a children's day, when the children showed off their drill, &c.

In one building was an excellent display of honey. In another an excellent display of the products from Manitoba. The oats were particularly fine; peas likewise. Wheat almost all of one kind—Red Fife, spring wheat. Very clean and dry, but small in grain. There was a shed also of products from Vancouver. I had not time to examine them very critically. The thinnest skinned oats I examined were some Black “Etamps.” I saw some excellent oats also, shown by a farmer—Mr. Rennie, near Brighton, Ontario. Most of the corn was grown from seed sent out to farmers by those excellent institutions, the Government Experimental Farms.

There were some good Clydesdales shown. The fees for a horse called “Kenilworth” were \$10; another horse's fees, \$13 and \$14. These fees are not paid till the following year, in March or so. The breeding stock of general purposes horses did not impress me; but the line they went on was good, namely, to give prizes for the best groups of stock by one horse. One mare (“Lucy Lightfoot”) and foal would have done credit in any ring.

I thought the arrangements for judging were indifferent and puzzling, as other horses and people were in and out of the various groups that were being judged while judging was going on. This should be corrected.

The committee of the Show, headed by Capt. McMaster, were most unremitting in their attention to the delegates, and we saw everything in the most comfortable way. We can never forget their kindness and hospitality to us. It was most fortunate that we were at Toronto at the time of the Show, as it gave us such an excellent opportunity of seeing the capabilities of this country.

During the last day we were at Toronto the fruit and flowers were exhibited. This is the worst year for fruit for many years, but there was an excellent display of beautifully coloured peaches, an immense number of pears, apples, plums, pumpkins, melons, and grapes grown out of doors. The flowers were fine in colour, but the arrangements of the cut flowers poor; crowding them together seemed of more importance than elegance. The beauty of the asters, dahlias, balsams, &c., showed, however, what can be done if the land is properly cultivated. I forgot to mention that I saw two famous horses at the Show. One jumped 6 ft. 8 in., and his owner backed him to clear 7 ft., as he had done in the States. He will do this one day at the Show. He was a very good-looking light-weight hunter, belonging to Messrs. Moorhouse & Pepper.

On one of the days we were at Toronto we visited the Agricultural College at Guelph, about 50 miles from Toronto. We were even longer than usual doing this journey, taking  $4\frac{1}{2}$  hours by rail. This gave us a very short time to see the institution and its neighbourhood. This is vacation time, so we did not see the young men, of whom there are about 100; but we saw their dormitories, &c. An excellent school of dairying is attached to the College, also veterinary lectures are given, and real practical work is done by the pupils. The fees are very small, and can in large part be recovered by pupils working extra hours on the farm. We were most hospitably entertained by Professor Shaw, the superintendent, who explained all the arrangements to us.

There was a large silo, in which Indian corn, cut in the cob, is put. It looked grand feeding stuff. I measured some of the Indian corn standing in the fields; it measured above 8 ft. It grows 18 to 20 tons to the acre.

We went to a large creamery attached to the farm, and were explained the working by so intelligent a gentleman that I longed to have him in Lincolnshire. They take in cream or milk from the neighbouring farms. Each sample is tested in a simple way, and the cream is paid for according to its butter-producing qualities. I gathered the following facts, but I may not be quite correct, as it is impossible to get a clear understanding when one goes about in half-dozens, as we did on this occasion:—9 to 10 lbs. of milk to a gallon; 5 lbs. of cream to 1 lb. of butter. Measurements are all made by the pound.

On our journey to Guelph we passed some of the best land we had seen in the country, with many young horses in the fields, but few

sheep. Country near Milton pretty. The autumn wheat was well up in some fields as we went to Guelph.

We had a short time to spare at Guelph, so we drove to two neighbouring farms, belonging to two excellent farmers, but could see them only in a hurried way. One was the property of Mr. Stone, who owned some 300 Herefords, and farmed 900 acres of land. They were of a remarkably fine breed, and had been in his possession many years. He used to get large prices for them at his sales, but their value has much diminished of late. He is to have a sale of 150 next month.

His neighbour was a Mr. McCrae, a noble-looking old Scotchman, who came but here with nothing 30 or 40 years ago. He owns the best breed of Galloways in this country. Had some very good Clydesdale mares, and had grown 80 bushels of oats to the acre. His land was excellently farmed, with plenty of manure. The stubble showed what had been on the land. His only daughter milked the only cow they kept for their own use. One son worked on the farm, and another lived in Guelph. He had done well, and all upon a 100-acre farm, I believe. I understood, however, that he had another small farm elsewhere. He kept two farm labourers. He paid them highly—£36 and £33, and board, a year.

On Monday, the 15th, we started a large party—to go to some of the public schools of Toronto. They are carried on much on the same lines as our board schools, and money seems as freely spent. The education is free, with the exception of some slight payment for books; and I am bound to say I never spoke to anyone of any class who is not perfectly satisfied with the working of them. The systems of ventilation, &c., are excellent, and the board and teachers most anxious to carry on matters well. The teachers are principally ladies, who receive pay on a graduated scale, varying from £60 to £140 a year.

Each child costs the State about £2 5s. a year. The children are kept at school much later in life than ours. I attended one of the classes managed by one of the teachers—Miss Sams—who seemed to have complete control over her pupils, one or two of whom were 17. She said the attendance was about 90 per cent. of those on the books. In the kindergarten class, which I also attended, the percentage was higher.

The schools open with the reading of the Bible, and prayer; but beyond this there is no religious instruction. The teaching of sewing is merely nominal, and voluntary. A small quantity of physical drill is taught. What I saw was poor in quality and quantity, and could do little towards setting up the children. They work from 9 to 4, with very little interval; of course the little ones have much less. I was delighted with the manners and teaching of the ladies in all the classes. The boys all stood up, saluted, and said, "Good morning," when a visitor appeared. No motion was made by the girls. They were all remarkably neatly dressed, and there was no evidence of poverty in any one child.

The schools are examined by an inspector (not Government), and a report made on each; but there is no payment by result, and no



extra cramming for examinations in order to get a grant, as with us. I mention the common schools, but there are numerous high, veterinary, and other schools where the fees are almost nominal, and where excellent education is given. Denominational schools are sanctioned, and a share of taxation given to them. They have their own inspectors.

I must now take leave of Toronto for a time. It is impossible to thank the people of that thriving city sufficiently for all their kindness and hospitality and attention to us delegates from Great Britain.

I left Toronto on the morning of the 17th September by train for Owen Sound, on Georgian Bay of Lake Huron. We passed through a pretty country, and at one or two places the farming seemed good. I saw only few sheep, and not many cattle. Some of the oats were uncut.

At Owen Sound I embarked at 4.30 on board a splendid steamboat—the “Athabasca”—and moved out into the bay at once. No vessels in sight, and only three or four gulls.

We passed a grand lot of islands and points about 12 o'clock—among them a well-known one, Thunder Point—and passed into Thunder Bay, arriving at Port Arthur, a town on the west side of Thunder Bay, in Lake Superior, about 1.30 p.m. on 19th September.

We arrived at Winnipeg about 4.30 on the 20th September, after a comfortable journey. The dining arrangements were most excellent—in fact, better than in the hotels. There is some little beginning of prairie about 20 miles from Winnipeg. A great deal of wheat and oats still uncarried; good deal of hay also uncarried. Land was much like our Lincolnshire Fens in colour.

In the afternoon, three of us drove out into the country, and visited Sir D. Smith's farm, where we saw some splendid pedigree beasts, and some American bison—almost the last that are left in Canada, though I believe there are a few tame herds in the States.

There was a banquet that evening, to which all the delegates were invited. After spending three days in looking round Winnipeg and the surrounding district, we left there at 12 o'clock on the 23rd September, in our own “car,” for Carman; went a short journey by a branch line; returned to Carman, and on to Glenboro'.

We passed some charming country, with slight hills, and saw no end of prairie hens and ducks. Some of the land was swampy, but it was most of it occupied, and near Treherne the land was good. Saw one French settlement and church. Asked a schoolmaster at Treherne about attendance; said 60 to 100. There are no police in this district. Plenty of schools. No local option, but think it will be in force next year. Saw Mr. Berry, a Leicester man, now a butcher. Has 350 acres: doing very well. Began with nothing. Was told of Mr. Purvis, a Gainsboro' man—an excellent farmer—doing well. There are a good many English about this station and Holland.

Sept. 24.—Slept at Glenboro', a nice little village. The party dispersed in the morning, some to visit crofters, others Icelanders; and a French delegate and I went to visit a French settlement at St. Alphonse.

On this journey we saw a good deal of wheat that had been quite spoilt by a hailstorm in the spring, and was left uncut.

We drove back on a lovely evening. I killed two prairie hens out of the carriage, and as we approached Glenboro' thousands of ducks passed over our heads from the cornfields. It must be a grand country for flight shooting.

I saw on the road, at Cypress River, Mr. Mawby, a son of Mr. Mawby, of Bourne. He is doing well on an excellent farm. We saw this day near Cypress River some splendid land and crops. I was delighted with this part of the country, as were the other delegates. They found both crofters and Icelanders most contented. Some of our people had capital shooting at ducks on the road.

A French Canadian barber drove us to-day. To show what wages are earned in this country, he told us he could get about \$3 or \$4 five days in the week, and \$10 (£2) on Saturdays. I asked him what he did with all this money, and he said, "Spend it." He paid \$4 (16s.) a week for his board, and had to hire his shop.

We saw to-day, as we did constantly, the foals running by the carriages with their mothers. They go 8 or 10 miles a day without difficulty. I think this must give them the good action they have; and they certainly look wonderfully well, never being deprived of their milk.

Left Glenboro' on 25th September, in four carriages, for Plum Creek (late Souris), about 57 miles.

Passed through a grand country the whole way to a village called Wawanessa (late Souris City). Thousands of acres of wheat, stacked, and being carted; stacks, two and two, scattered all over the country.

Stopped to talk to two excellent English farmers—Mr. Watson, who had been a keeper in Yorkshire, who started four years ago without a cent; and Mr. Smeaton, who seemed a moneyed man. Both seemed doing wonderfully well; had good houses, surrounded by trees.

Watson had only 160 acres of land, of which he will fallow half next year. He has this year 120 acres of wheat and 10 acres of oats. He has five sons to help him; he and they do all the work. Worked first year on other land. Has 16 head of cattle and one pair horses—three pair of draught oxen included in the cattle. He says breaking and backsetting costs \$4 (16s.) an acre. On this road we saw some fine crops of millet, which seems very suitable for forage.

After dinner at Wawanessa, we started, crossing the Souris River, and drove 27 miles to Plum Creek (late Souris), arriving there at 7.30 p.m. Land all taken up, but much unbroken. Rolling prairie. Few cattle. Good deal of wheat spoilt by hail. Our horses had brought us 60 miles this day, and seemed as fresh as possible at the end.

Plum Creek is a thriving place, and apparently a very pretty one; but it was dark, and we started directly after supper in a special train for Brandon, which we reached in one and a half hours, at 10.30 p.m., 25th September.

Ascertained following information respecting land values, taxes, yield of crops, prices, &c.:—Cultivated prairie, at \$5 an acre; uncultivated prairie, at \$4 an acre. Taxes, &c., on 160 acres, from \$14 to \$16 a year = to 8 or 9 mills on a dollar; no tax on buildings on farms; no

tax on personalty, such as horses, cattle, implements, &c., unless they exceed \$500 in value; no one can be assessed above 2 cents in the dollar (5d. in £) without a special Act. The above varies in different districts; North-West Territories taxes are lighter than Manitoba. Price this year for best wheat, 80 cents a bushel; average of year, probably 70 cents a bushel; average yield of province, 23½ bushels an acre; yield of last four years—1887, 35 bushels to acre; 1888, 20 bushels to acre; 1889, 15 bushels to acre; 1890, 25 bushels to acre; average, 23½ bushels. Wheat can be grown at \$8 (34s.) an acre. If sold for 80 cents a bushel, there will be on it—Cost of work, 40 cents; profit, 40 cents; total, 80 cents. In 1880, 100,000 bushels were exported; in 1887, between 11 and 12 million bushels.

Sept. 26.—Made a most interesting expedition to Mr. Sandison's farm, five or six miles from Brandon. Mr. S., a Scotchman, began without a cent seven years ago. Hired himself out at first, then took a small section, and has gradually added to this, either by purchase or hire, till he farms above 5,000 acres. He is still quite a young man—perhaps 30. He employs a great deal of labour, mostly Scotchmen, probably giving at this time of the year about \$2½ a day. He has 83 teams of horses (66 horses), and three teams of driving horses. A team sometimes goes with grain into Brandon with load three times in a day (total, 30 miles). His men's work hours are as follows:—Half-past 6 to half-past 11; rest, 2 hours; half-past 1 to half-past 6; total, 10 hours. He does not find it answer to do longer hours.

He threshes all his grain from the stooks, and leaves the straw in. Can thresh 312½ quarters (2,500 bushels) in a day! but straw is very short and much broken; it is used to fire the engine. The wheat is cleaned again at the elevator before being put on the railway. It goes direct there, and a certain percentage is charged for dirt—with Sandison probably about 5 per cent. The men get \$35 a month, and board.

I saw some splendid black oats grown on the farm, about 80 or 90 bushels to acre (?), they said. I admired a stable well guarded with 3 feet of sods—almost the first of the kind I had seen in the country.

Mr. Sandison and his wife live in the most tumble-down old shanty, though his stables, barns, &c., are most excellent. I believe he frequently goes to Scotland, and brings out fresh men for his farm.

At Brandon we visited the Experimental Farm, one of those admirable institutions scattered all over Canada. Here we were received by the most intelligent and obliging of officials, Mr. Bedford. After a sumptuous luncheon, and an inspection of the various grains, and the grasses hung round the barn, we saw the various experimental grasses that had been tried for this climate. It is found that clover is killed by the frost, but lucerne stands well. We saw some excellent samples of wheat and barley—the latter the best sample we had seen in Canada, and well worthy of the attention of English maltsters.

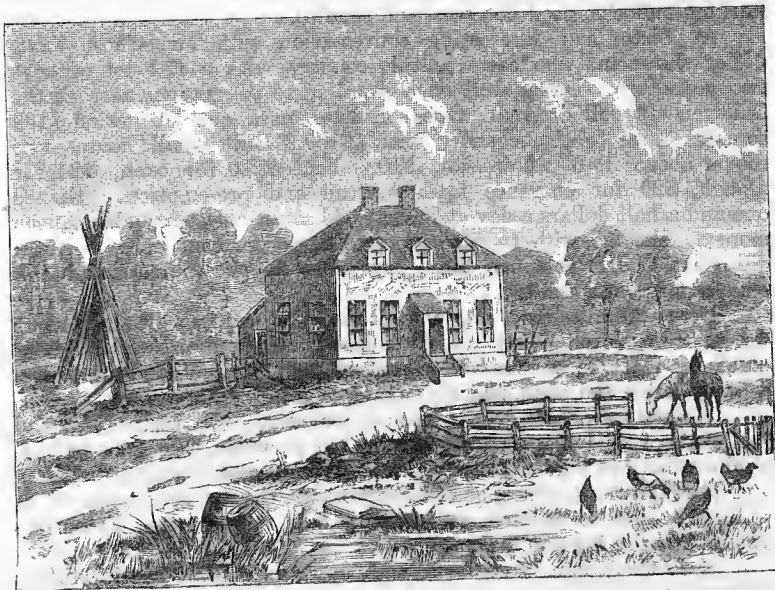
In the afternoon, most of our party drove to some other farms, but I went to a blacksmith, to look at shoeing. All shoes are ready-made, and nails ready pointed. The charge for a new set of shoes is \$2 (equal to 8s.); 25 cents (1s.) for a remove.

At a butcher's, beef,  $12\frac{1}{2}$  cents a lb. (beef in winter, by carcass, 6 cents a lb.); lamb, 16 cents a lb. Journeyman got \$30 a month and board. A lady who buys a deal of beef says that she only pays 10 cents (5d.) for all kinds of beef.

Before we left Brandon, in the morning, on the 27th September, we hurriedly examined a splendid flour mill, which could grind 1,000 bushels of wheat in a day with 200 horse-power. Charged  $1\frac{1}{2}$  cents per bushel to Sandison; perhaps 2 cents to anyone else. We also saw some interesting work done at a saw-mill. The engines at both these places were fed by sawdust.

We left Brandon amidst the cheers of the public, to which we gave a hearty response, and drove 22 miles to Rapid City. The country was undulating and pretty, but more suited to grazing than grain. We, however, saw some grand crops of wheat, one of which extended as far as the eye could see. We saw good-looking cattle in large numbers.

At Rapid City we were entertained by the Mayor and Corporation at the hotel, and then took special train to Minnedosa. There we joined the main line of the Manitoba and North-Western Railway, and wound through a pretty undulating and well-settled country along the Little Saskatchewan to Birtle, arriving there at 7 on the 27th.



A FARM-HOUSE IN MANITOBA.  
(Drawn by Colonel Fane.)

I was met at the station by Mr. Herchmer, who lives here, and Mr. Mytton, the clergyman, the latter of whom drove me to the town,

a mile from the station. Before doing so, we were entertained at supper at the station by the railway company. The rest of my party went further west.

After church, I drove with Mr. Herchmer to dinner at Mr. Lloyd's, a nephew of General Wilkinson. Mr. Lloyd is managing General W.'s farms. He has about 1,200 acres here, and another farm a short distance off, besides having got his cattle about 100 miles north on some unclaimed land. General Wilkinson is in England, but he has a son and a nephew here—the latter a son of my friend the Rev. C. Wilkinson. Mrs. Lloyd has had no servant for two months, but she had an admirable dinner for us, and it was interesting to see what a lady can accomplish when put to it.

Mr. Lloyd had had a capital Barnardo boy in his service. He had gone back to the Home to superintend work there. His name was Fisher.

Drove to see Lewarton, a man who came with a large family from Fulbeck to this country about three years ago. He seemed to be doing well, and the elder boys had no wish to go back to England. Lewarton had a good house, which he had built himself; and the property was now his own. He could also have two more pieces of 160 acres each on certain terms. They had about 30 acres broken, and had stacked their corn. Had 19 head of cattle, one pair of working bullocks, good potatoes, and turnips.

At Birtle had interesting conversation with Mr. Thos. Vant, a Yorkshireman, who came to this country with a fine lot of boys two years ago. Doing well on a small piece of garden near Birtle. Children all well dressed. One son lives on a quarter-section (160 acres). Came to this country with £100. Built small house—two rooms above, two below—for £10. Paid \$110 for oxen, \$24 for plough, \$20 for entrance to homestead and pre-emption. Earned one and a half dollars a day at first at odd jobs; eldest boy also earned money. Has no wish to go back to England, except on a visit; is quite satisfied. Told me three days after he put in radishes leaves were as large as a shilling.

Drove 20 miles from Birtle to Binscarth; had to wait three hours for car from North-West. In the hotel found a landlord who had been coachman to Duke of Cambridge and others. He and his brother had a livery stable and farm, and were doing well after four years.

Weighed a potato grown here; it scaled  $2\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. Tasted jelly and jam made of wild black currants, wild red currants, wild gooseberries, wild cranberries, wild saskatoons, wild cherries, and wild strawberries.

Early in the morning of 30th September, the car was moved up by a branch line to Russell, one and a half miles from Barnardo's Institution for London lads.

Here there is a large farm, with upwards of 55 cows in milk, a creamery, good garden, good farm buildings, &c. The boys seemed of all ages from 13 to 20, some of low cast of countenance; but the matron said she had no difficulty with them. Splendid vegetables in the garden. Good water.

Measured some vegetables in garden. Turnip radish, 14 in. cir-

cumference; long radish, 2 ft. 2 in. long; swede, 2 ft. 4 in. circumference; drumhead cabbage, 3 ft. 7 in. circumference, solid heart; cauliflower, 3 ft. 1 in. circumference of flower.

Met here Colonel Bolton, whom I had known in the 100th, 27 years ago. He is an old settler, and large property owner in these parts, and says he has done very well.

A few miles from here we came to the Binscarth Farm, belonging to the Scottish Ontario Land Company. They farm 4,000 acres, and have a total of 19,000 acres which they can acquire, I believe. Here we saw some splendid pedigree Shorthorns, many of them worthy of the best show in England. The calves were particularly fine; bulls rather short of quality. Calves have never been out. About 120 two, three, and four year olds had lately been shipped from this district; average, \$35 (£7) each.

There are 80 head of pedigree Shorthorns on the farm, and 14 sheep. Land suffers from frost. Cattle allowed to run without tending after 1st October. No manure used on farm, though cake is given in quantities.

From Binscarth we returned to Birtle, and drove to a small exhibition of horses, cattle, bread, butter, cheese, vegetables, onions, beetroot, &c.; also pictures, needlework, and patchwork. Added to above were trotting and galloping races. All the latter part was poor, but the exhibition of roots and vegetables most excellent.

A man told me he sowed 2 bushels of potatoes. He has four in family. Began to eat in July; in September he had 37 bushels to spare.

In the evening we were entertained by the Mayor and Council, and afterwards spent an enjoyable evening in the Town Hall, listening to the experiences of various speakers. The delegates also had to speak. All speakers seemed to have prospered more or less.

John Ewbank Edmondson came out May, 1889. Bought half-section 4 miles from Birtle; has 70 acres in crop. Five boys, aged 14 downwards; three girls—young. Drilled wheat 16th April; cut wheat 10th August. Doing well.

A young Scotchman also gave his experiences in the clearest way. He began with 25 cents, and appeared now (after eight years) to be worth a great deal of money. He was a gallant-looking young fellow, who meant work.

Oct. 1.—Left Birtle, where I had received the greatest kindness, particularly from Mr. Herchmer and the Rev. J. Mytton, the English Church clergyman. We all started east together, and I went on to Portage-la-Prairie, where I changed on to the C. P. R.

We saw quantities of cattle, and very pretty country from Minnedosa, Neepawa, Gladstone, &c., and splendid wheat land on Portage Plains. All the corn was gathered, and a good deal threshed. We went for some little time along the banks of the Little Saskatchewan. It must be lovely here in spring; now it is all burnt up.

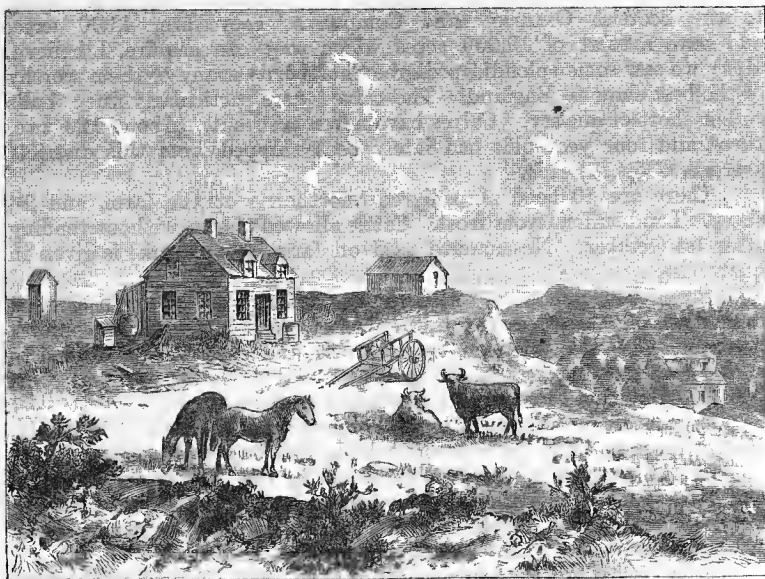
Portage seemed a busy town, with good shops, and electric light.

There was nothing particularly interesting to see between Portage and Moosomin, but all the land seemed pretty well taken up.

I arrived at Moosomin at 11.30 at night, and was met at the

station by Mr. McNaughton, a storekeeper of the place, who insisted on my coming to his house instead of the hotel, and gave me much useful and valuable information.

Oct. 2.—Drove out to Pipestone Creek to visit a farm belonging to Mr. Mannors. Spent the day with him, and returned to Moosomin at night.



A FARM-HOUSE IN THE NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,  
(Drawn by Colonel Fane.)

On road passed a man named Middleton. Has 320 acres, 62 broken. Hopes to get 1,000 bushels. Will keep his straw. Has one team of bullocks, cow and calf. Was with W. H. Smith & Co. Came out with nine children, and \$1,000; is perfectly satisfied, and sees a good prospect for self and children. Has been out six years. Had a good place in England, but no prospect for children, as in this country.

During our drive passed the houses of the following settlers:—

1. Middleton—Had been a book-stall man.
2. Another man—Tea trader in China.
3. " " Market gardener.
4. " " Grocer.
5. " " Civil engineer.
6. " " Groom.
7. " " Banker's clerk.

On returning to Moosomin, we found that the train, which should have arrived at 11.15 p.m., was two hours late. Mr. McNaughton insisted on sitting up with me till half-past one in the morning, and

helped to take my luggage to the station. Our car came in the train. I only lay down for two or three hours.

Oct. 3.—I reached Grenfell at about 3 in the morning, where I was met by the Rev. F. Baker, the clergyman of the district, who was very kind to me.

There were a great many people in the village for the agricultural show that was going on. I have never seen so many English in one place before; many well-dressed young English gentlemen: they brought in horses, sheep, and cattle to the show. The roots, &c., were shown in the Town Hall, which has been built for the purpose, though the inhabitants of the village do not amount to above 200 persons.

I saw a good thoroughbred stallion—"Corneille," by "McGregor;" a first-rate shire stallion—"Prince 8th"—out of Keerval's stud; several teams of horses, ponies, &c.; and a good thoroughbred yearling bull Shorthorn, belonging to Mr. Rowley. The sheep were a poor show.

Small ponies stand the cold best. Teams of big horses, \$350 to \$450; these are not turned out in winter.

The best teams of ponies could be bought at \$120 to \$150 the pair; they were generally accompanied by their foals. They and young stock got no hay or oats, and were out all the winter, but looked very well.

There was an excellent exhibit from the new Experimental Farm at Indian Head. The black oats, lucerne, and clover were very good; but the best exhibits of wheat and peas were from the Indian Reservation, a few miles from here.

Products of Indian Head Farm:—Spring rye good, sown July 7, cut September 1; red clover wintered well; lucerne wintered well, 18 inches of root; Scotch tartarian oats, 60 bushels to acre—very good. Land: 8 inches of black loam, clay underneath.

The show would have been better had they not had a hailstorm on 8th June last.

This being the North-West Territory, no liquor is allowed to be sold without a permit. Persons requiring two gallons of wine or whisky must pay a dollar to Government. No innkeeper would be allowed to have a permit. This does not stop drinking at times.

I hear that a German settlement in this neighbourhood is very flourishing.

I collected from an old settler the names of some of the old country settlers within 11 or 12 miles of here, together with their previous occupations, from which it appears that out of 61 only 14 had been farmers.

There are several more Englishmen in the radius, whose names I could not gather. They have a second church at Weed Hill, a cricket club, and a pack of hounds.

At Regina, where I arrived at 5.30 a.m. on October 6th, Colonel Herchmer, the Chief Commissioner of the North-West Mounted Police, came to fetch me.

The barracks are excellent, with every comfort for the men, and the Commissioner's house the nicest and best-kept house I have seen since leaving Toronto. I spent the day with Colonel Herchmer; looked



at the roll of his men, visited the stables, riding school, &c. This is the headquarters of the force, which consists of about 1,000 men and 40 officers.

The force is entirely mounted on "bronchos," raised on the prairies north of this. They are a good class of horse, with good feet and legs, rather wanting in rib, but with capital action. Colonel Herchmer buys them at about an average of \$120 each, at three and four years old. The police make almost everything they use, on their own premises.

I drove round to two places with Colonel Herchmer, and visited some settlers. One man had two young men from England (Risk and Browning) working for him; one of them had been with him two years. They had just bought 320 acres from the Canada North-West Land Company, at six miles from Regina, paying \$6 an acre, to be paid in six yearly instalments.

I came across a farmer named Young, from Coddington, in Nottinghamshire. His brother still farms there. He has been able to do well for his five sons—first, editor of paper, aged 24; second, tinsmith (foreman), aged 22; third, chemist (foreman), aged 20; fourth, with a chemist; fifth, at a bookseller's. Young farms, shoots, and keeps a small store.

Herchmer told me to-day of a man named Brown, one and a half miles from Birtle. Began in 1879. Cut some hay, above ice. Had eight or nine children, a scythe, and two or three weeks' food; lived in a stable in winter. Father has now 320 acres; son also 320. Two daughters married. Has two span of horses, 50 cattle, and doing well; owes nothing. Brown comes from Oakham, where he was on the railway.

Saw at Regina a man named McLeod—Highlander, with large family. Came with nothing, seven years ago; has now good house, windmill, 80 or 90 head of cattle; supplies town with milk.

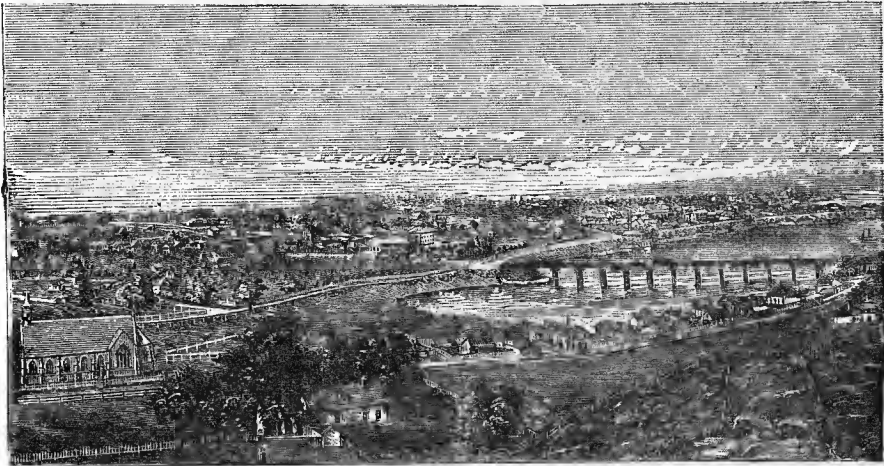
I slept at the hotel at Regina, and at 5 in the morning of the 7th October went on board the cars, and travelled all day. There seemed very little land taken up between Regina and Calgary, except the large farms of 10,000 acres each, which were taken up by Sir J. L. Kaye, and now belong to a company. They raise very little wheat; but I saw some fair crops of turnips. It looked a good sheep country; but I only saw one flock of a thousand or so. We saw the sage bush growing strongly for the first time. Lakes seemed much dried up, and there appeared a good deal of alkali about. In some parts the ground was nicely undulating. The country north of this is so much better than this part of the country has been rather neglected up to this time. We did not even see many horses. Medicine Hat seemed a busy place, as the Saskatchewan is navigable here, and the coal district is at no great distance.

Left Regina at 5 a.m., 7th October, and reached Calgary on the morning of the 8th. A Mr. H. D. Johnson came to see me. He came from near Newark. Had been in the country eight years. His wife was the daughter of Mr. W. Holt, schoolmaster of Denton. He came out as a mason. He now builds for the Government; gets \$1,200

a year. Son farms 160 acres of his own. As there was a heavy fall of snow in the night, I did not stop long at Calgary, but took the train again at 2.30 a.m. on the 9th for the west coast.

Oct. 9.—Left Calgary. It was most fortunate that we had a fall of snow yesterday, as it covered all the tops of the mountains to-day. We were the whole day passing through glorious scenery, with splendid peaks and wild ravines in all directions. The only drawback was the quantity of dead timber, the gaunt, tall lines of which covered the face of the hills. Towards the afternoon the scenery improved in this respect, and the shape and colour of the mountains were as fine as anything I have ever seen. At Glacier House, where we stopped for a meal, the view of a glacier close by was most exquisite, as there was not a cloud in the sky. We crossed the Columbia River at one point, and went on all night through the same sort of scenery.

At about 3 p.m. on the 10th October we arrived at Vancouver, and went straight on board a fine steamer, which landed us in about five hours at Victoria, in Vancouver Island. The voyage was very delightful, as we travelled through narrow channels and past many islands almost all the way. This was my first view of the Pacific.



CITY OF VICTORIA.

The surroundings of Victoria are beautiful, with endless bays, hills, and rocks, covered with vegetation and splendid Douglas pines and other timber. Wherever there was any cultivated ground, the crop seemed good on it, there being at least 6 or 7 inches of good soil on the top of clay. The wheat I saw was very fine (white autumn wheat); oats also good; but what astonished me most was the profusion of fruit.

On the 11th I called on Sir J. Trutch. His garden seemed to grow everything in profusion. Thick hedge of privet, roses, broom,

large violets, cherries, potatoes, apricots, honeysuckle, pears, plums, hollies, &c. The trees were absolutely loaded with fruit; indeed, I have never in my life seen such crops. The difficulty with all these things, however, is to find a market for them.

Sir J. Trutch drove me some miles in the country. It surprised me to see several times in our drive, pheasants fly from the cultivated land into the patches of wood. They were imported here a few years ago, and have thriven wonderfully. They must be difficult to kill, as the covers are very thick with heather, willow, broom, &c., and long grass, and various kinds of pines. Everyone seems to have a gun, but we saw frequent notices to sportsmen not to trespass. An attempt is made to preserve.

Oct. 13.—Left Victoria for Vancouver at 4 in the morning. We reached the town of Vancouver at 10, and had three hours there. This town has made gigantic strides in four years, and promises to be a most important place. The Canadian Pacific Railway have not only built a splendid hotel there, but are now building an opera house! The town has electric light, electric tramway, &c. The latter goes a fearful pace: one is surprised there are not accidents; but children, dogs, &c., seem to take care of themselves in these countries.

I had some interesting talk at an estate office. The manager told me that in spite of the great works going on here, the taxes are at most \$3½ in \$1,000.

I left Vancouver at 1 once more for my long journey east. I very much regretted I had not more time on the west side of the Rockies, as though there is a great quantity of agricultural land, at Kamloops and other valleys there is some very fine land, in a mild climate.

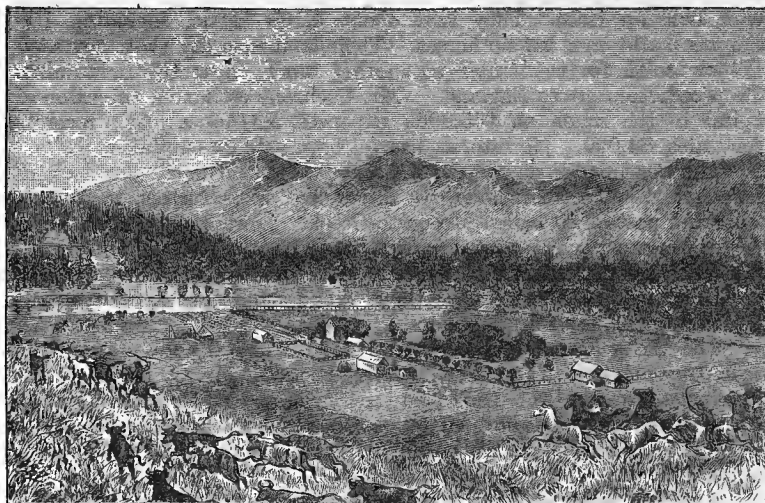
After staying a day at Banff, and visiting the Devil's Lake, I left for Calgary, arriving there at 2.30 a.m. on the 16th October.

Colonel Herchmer, who is in command of the police dépôt here, had kindly arranged to drive me in a four-horse police team across country to Lethbridge, *via* Fort Macleod, to see the big ranches of the district. We left at 2, and had a delightful drive over the prairie to the Quorn Ranch, 30 miles. A great part of the country seemed settled up, but there was very little cultivation. There were no green crops. Cattle and horses were scattered about. Some of the creeks were very steep, and required a good deal of driving to get over. The land seemed first-rate, but cold; there were patches of snow about.

The ranch covers 17 square miles, and is held on lease. There are fine buildings, yards, &c. They have 1,200 horses (200 of which are imported Irish mares), 12 stallions, and 3,000 head of cattle; no sheep. One of the most remarkable features of the place is that they got 2,000 head of cattle from Ontario last year, one and two year olds, at prices varying from \$20 to \$25 each. Will pay well as three and four year olds at \$40. It must be remembered that neither horses nor cattle ever get an oat, except the stallions. Mares foal, generally alone, in the open. They employ eight men all the year round.

We left the Quorn Ranch next morning, and had a splendid drive, in lovely weather, about 20 miles, to the High River Horse

Ranch, belonging to a company, but managed by Mr. Macpherson, late of the 78th Highlanders. They have 950 horses, three thoroughbred stallions, and a Norfolk trotter. They had 250 foals last year.



RANCH SCENE, ALBERTA.

The ranch extends over 60,000 acres, but only 8,000 are paid for, on lease at 2 cents an acre. They have also 1,280 acres of freehold. Their staff consists of manager and three men, and occasional help. Wages of latter at hay time, \$30 a month, and board; head man and wife, \$40 a month, and board. Coal is found near the surface at about seven miles' distance. Fine river and plenty of fish close by.

We started again at 2 o'clock, and drove about 20 miles further to the North-West Cattle Company's Ranch. We drove over a splendid rolling prairie, with fine grass and many cattle. This is one of the largest ranches in the district, and is managed by Mr. Stinson, a Canadian gentleman.

Oct. 18.—We got up early, so as to have a good look at the horses, calves, &c. There are about 10,000 cattle and 800 horses on the ranch, which consists of about 240,000 acres, for which they pay 1 cent an acre a year on lease. We saw about 100 mares, and some two, three, and four year olds. For the latter they get up to \$120. They have 2,000 calves this year; they have just finished weaning them. They have sold many hundreds of steers this year, at an average of \$50 each, and have paid a dividend! We were shown some excellent stallions, the best I have seen in the country; and two very good Norfolk trotters—"President Garfield," by "Bay President," and "Sam Weller." These horses have nothing but hay all the winter, and were by no means in high condition.

After a delightful visit, we left at 10 o'clock, and drove 17 miles to the Little Bow River (or Cattle Company's) Ranch. This is managed by Mr. Cochrane, a Leicestershire man. He, a cousin, and Mr. Graham are owners of the ranch, which consists of about 60,000 acres, held on lease. They have about 1,100 cattle, including 100 pedigree Galloways, but no horses. Their land is so dry that they send all their cattle for the winter to another ranch, near the mountains. The proprietors go to England. Mr. Cochrane estimates the value of capital in the ranch at \$55,000; expenses, \$3,000 a year; receipts from sales, \$4,000. No interest has yet been paid on capital.

The weather all day was delightful—quite warm till 6 o'clock in the evening. After luncheon, we drove five miles further to a rest-house and post office, called Mosquito Creek. Here a police team from Macleod met us, and I parted with my kind friend Colonel Herchmer, who went back to Calgary, about 60 miles. I cannot say how good and useful he had been to me, as without him I should not have seen half the ranches and their kind owners.

The Oxley Ranch is a large one—some 250,000 acres—owned by a company; Lord Lathom, Mr. Staveley Hill, and Mr. G. Baird are the principal share-owners. I am told they have only 6,000 head of cattle, but I think they must have more, as they have just rounded up 1,500 or so of steers to send to Montreal. I could not gather that they ever earn a dividend.

I started with the team at 9.15, and drove parallel to the Porcupine Hills for some hours. We were principally on the Oxley Ranch, but also passed several small ranches, owned mainly by Canadians, who, I heard, were doing well. At about 1.30 we crossed what must be a very nasty passage at times—the Old Man's River—and shortly I found myself in comfortable quarters with Major Steele, of the Constabulary, at Fort Macleod.

I had heard that a successful man in this country was a Mr. Mollison, who farmed about five miles from here. He came to see me this morning (Oct. 20th). I found him a shrewd, clever Scotchman. He had only been here two or three years, but was doing well. He was one year with the Lister Kaye's farms, but he is now farming on his own account. He owns 320 acres. Can grow good vegetables (he showed specimens), and keeps milk cows and horses. Next year he hopes to try irrigation. He was quite satisfied that this part of Canada would be a success.

Oct. 20.—Colonel Macleod, Mr. Peters, and I started in a four-horse team from barracks at Macleod at 10, and drove 32 miles to the celebrated Cochrane Ranch, owned by Mr. Cochrane, a gentleman well known in Lower Canada as a breeder of Shorthorns, &c. The country was uninteresting for the first 20 miles, and the prairie poor, but as we approached the ranch it improved. We were gradually nearing the mountains (S.W.) the whole journey. There are about 200,000 acres in the ranch, which runs up in undulating plains towards the Rockies, and, in fact, up their lower spurs, where is the best grass. They have about 12,000 head of cattle and 100 horses. Many of the best cattle are Herefords. They have sent 1,000 head to

England this month in charge of the second brother. The first lot sold at £17 each at Liverpool. They have about 2,000 calves this year. They lose a considerable number by wolves. They spey all the heifers they do not want, and have been very successful with them. The average of 500 steers sent last year to Montreal was 1,450 lbs., live weight. One they tried for themselves weighed 1,044 lbs., dressed. Mr. Cochrane considers that a beast loses 200 lbs. in transit from here to Liverpool; cost of carriage as above, £6 to £7. He considers that 60 to 40 will represent the proportion of good meat and offal respectively, but he could not say that these weights had been properly tested with cattle fed only on the prairie. Mr. Cochrane considered that Herefords did better than anything else on the ranch. The company has paid a good dividend this year. In the afternoon, we went several miles to look at cattle, all of which were as fat as possible.

We left Mr. Cochrane's hospitable house at 8 a.m., Oct. 21st. and drove 11 miles to "Standoff," where a new police station was being built for the Government by officers and men of the police force, under the directions of Mr. Peters, my companion, who is Government clerk of the works. He tells me that the police can build these places quite as well and much cheaper than if done by contract. It can well be imagined what excellent practice this is for the police, who generally after a few years retire from the force and make first-rate settlers.

We passed a good many small ranches, and then travelled for miles through the Blood Indian Reserve. At one place we came upon the officer in charge of the Reserve, who turned out to be a Mr. Pocklington, son of a well-known lawyer at Boston. He has been 17 years in this country, and, like many other Government officials, began as a constable in the police force. At this place I parted with Colonel Macleod, who returned to Fort Macleod with Mr. Pocklington.

Mr. Peters and I continued our journey, and after passing two very nasty rivers, which are not pleasant now, and most dangerous at certain seasons, I arrived at Lethbridge, after some 200 miles of delightful driving over the prairies, and seeing many small, besides several very large, ranches in the most agreeable way, and with pleasant companions.

Pincher Creek and Macleod have many English ranchmen in the neighbourhood.

Lethbridge is the headquarters of the coal district, and busy work is being done here. The town is the neatest Western town I have seen, though only of a few years' growth. The houses of the miners are principally built by the Galt Company, who own the mines and railway. I was met here by young Mr. Galt, the son of Sir A. T. Galt, whom I recollect seeing in England.

I went into one of the miner's houses. He was civil, as usual, and asked me to sit down while answering questions. He was getting first-rate pay—some \$4 a day, and only paid \$1 a month for his house of two rooms.

Oct. 22.—We passed through a grand district, particularly between Virden and Brandon, and some 20 miles beyond Portage-la-Prairie. At

one station there were three elevators. There were farm-houses the whole way, and a nice sprinkling of cattle. A good deal of fall ploughing had been done; but there was still a good deal of corn standing in the stook. Unusually wet weather has interfered lately with the harvest. I did not see many cattle. Nearer to Winnipeg we came to poorer land, with a good many cattle; there were a few trees on sandy hills. After that the land was good, but very wet, and so it continued all the way to Winnipeg. These last 20 or 30 miles are of the finest wheat land, but require draining. The soil is a rich black mould. It sticks to wheels and boots like india-rubber when half dry. We passed A. Willson's late farm about 14 miles before we got to Winnipeg at 4.30 in the afternoon.

Before leaving Manitoba, I should mention that I never saw or heard of a policeman there, except at Winnipeg. They must be a law-abiding race. Sundays are wonderfully well kept. Nothing is seen of the rowdyism of the Western towns of the States, where I am told gambling saloons are kept open most of the Sunday. In every small town there are Church of England, Presbyterian, Methodist, and Roman Catholic churches.

The hotel-keeper of the hotel I am staying at here (Winnipeg), and the proprietor of the principal hotel at Regina, were talking to me to-day. The former said he paid \$15 a month to his women, the latter \$25! When I said governesses were not better paid, the Regina man said two of his maids had been governesses in the old country. I heard yesterday from a gentleman in the train that many of the waiters in the summer hotels in New England are students, &c., who spend their holidays in that way!

There is an excellent club at Winnipeg, of which I was made honorary member. I met many pleasant people there.

Left Winnipeg at 10.45 a.m., Oct. 25th; travelled due south. The land for the first 40 miles was wet, and not much cultivated. It is held by speculators. It seemed to be fine land, but would want some draining. Towards Morris much of the land was taken up, and quantities of wheat were in stacks, and being threshed; at Morris there were three elevators at work.

We crossed the frontier into the United States at Gretna, and travelled via St. Paul, Minneapolis, and Chicago.

Oct. 29.—Arrived at London, Ontario, at 11.30 p.m. I knew no one in London, but soon became acquainted with several gentlemen, who volunteered their services to me. Mr. Webster, the Member for the county, drove me out to Mr. Luard's, a Lincolnshire man; and in the afternoon Mr. Weld, editor of *Farmer's Advocate*, drove me 13 miles to see the town water works and pleasure grounds, and on to Mr. Gibson's, who owns a farm called the Belvoir Farm, of 300 acres.

I found Mr. Gibson was a Lincolnshire man, who had been at school at Broughton. He received me most kindly, and showed me all about his farm. The fall wheat both here and on the road to the Belvoir Farm looked most promising. The cultivation was evidently most excellent, and the land very good. This was altogether the best farm I have seen in the country. Mr. Gibson had a splendid Durham bull—"8th Duke of Leicester"—a flock of 60 pure-bred Downs, about 70 pure-bred Shorthorns, 40 or 50 pedigree Berkshires, and 100 beautiful

turkeys. His house was a most comfortable one, and his wife (a Canadian) gave us a kindly welcome. Mr. Gibson began with nothing, but has now this farm, worth many thousands of dollars. He says he can get good men at \$1½ a day, and sometimes less. He grew 42 bushels of wheat to the acre on part of his farm this year. Sold it all for seed at \$1½ a bushel. He sells a good many pedigree animals, going over to England for them at times, as well as breeding. His Indian corn was first-rate. He feeds his animals in winter upon cut Indian corn (with the cobs), mixed with bran and turnips. He gives very little artificial food. His sheep are all under cover in the winter, and his beasts are all well housed; the young ones being shut in loose boxes in pairs while feeding. The farm is both well watered and well timbered, and was altogether a most desirable-looking place both in looks and soil. The village of Delaware, close by, with its pretty church, among the trees, made an attractive and most rural picture.

In driving to the Belvoir Farm we passed the water works of London, which are tastefully laid out with walks, &c. This place is much resorted to in the summer, and the view from the observatory was most beautiful, showing the winding of the river Thames below, and miles of woods, with good-looking farm-houses scattered about.

Oct. 30.—Mr. Hodgins, a gentleman whose acquaintance I made yesterday, came at 9 o'clock to drive me out to his farms, stables, &c. He breeds extensively, besides buying young animals, from his own stock horses. He has several Cleveland and pure-bred stallions, and 60 or 70 brood mares. He deals a good deal with Withers, the horse dealer in Oxford Street, London; and he is now about to ship about 25 horses to England. Many of them are intended for the English carriage-horse market. I saw some remarkably good ones among them, most of them 16 hands high, with good action. They are all broken to harness on the farm, and I saw a very fine pair, three years old, leading manure, that looked like making £200. He breeds also largely for the American trotting market, besides having several thoroughbreds which have been successful Queen's placers.

The stamp of horse I saw at Mr. Hodgins's was far superior to anything I had yet seen in Canada, and showed what can be done by judicious breeding. Mr. Hodgins is quite satisfied with the results, as far as balance-sheet is concerned, and has proved that more profit is to be made by horses than Shorthorns, particularly when foals or yearlings are bought from neighbouring farmers.

Mr. Hodgins tells me that an immense number of foals are bred in this district, 20 stallions standing at one station alone. He almost always breeds from his three-year-olds.

Mr. Hodgins tells me that many good farms about here, with fair houses on them, can be bought at from \$30 to \$40 an acre. He has rented some land himself at about \$2 an acre. There are apple orchards attached to most of the farms; this year they have been a failure, but some years they export a great number. The country is thickly settled, and would no doubt be a desirable one to live in, as labour is much cheaper than further west.

The town of London is handsomely laid out, and the agricultural



buildings, park, &c., the best I have seen in the country. The whole of the ground round London is undulating and well timbered.

I inspected a cheese factory, of which there are many in the neighbourhood. The cheeses seemed very good, and are exported to Europe. The factory takes the milk of about 600 or 700 cows. The milk is weighed as it comes in, and the whey returned to the farmer the next day. About one-third goes back in whey to the farmer for his pigs, &c. Cheese fetches  $10\frac{1}{2}$  cents per lb.; last year,  $8\frac{1}{2}$  to 9 cents.

In the afternoon, I inspected the flour mill, elevator, &c., of Mr. Rich. Mr. Rich is a Lincolnshire man, but came to this country about 35 years ago. He came with nothing, and is now a prosperous man.

A man called Linnell came to see me in the evening. Has been here 10 years; wishes he had come earlier. Is doing well; gets  $\$1\frac{1}{2}$  a day. His boy of 15 gets  $\$1$ . Has his own house in a village some miles off, with one acre of ground, but lets it, as he is living here at present. Pays  $\$7$  a month for his present house. Pays nothing for his children's schooling, but  $\$2$  a year for books. Can get good beef at 4 cents per lb. Says masons get  $\$2\frac{1}{2}$  a day; carpenters,  $\$2$  a day. Linnell's mother and brother live at Great Gonerby, Lincolnshire. He himself was confirmed at Fulbeck. Came three times to the hotel to-day, determined to find me. He had been at least in eight or nine different trades before he settled to his present one.

Oct. 30.—I left London at 12 at night, and in half an hour reached the small town of Ingersoll. During the evening was asked by a gentleman named Podmore to come and see the large shipping establishment for cheese, bacon, &c., of Messrs. Grant & Co. to-morrow morning.

Oct. 31.—Visited the establishment of Grant & Co. They do an extensive business in shipping bacon to England. They kill about 30,000 hogs a year, averaging about 16 stone apiece. The bacon is cut so as to suit different markets; that of Bristol being different from Liverpool; and they, again, vary in fancy with other places. The bacon is either singed or scalded, according to fancy of market. The bacon is all kept in iced cellars, and is ready for shipment 25 or 30 days after killing.

All refuse is used. The blood, &c., makes an excellent fertiliser when dried by a certain process, and sells at  $\$25$  a ton; the grease is pressed out and made into lard for home use; other parts are made into sausages and pork pies.

Messrs. Grant are also large exporters of cheese. About 150,000 boxes will go to England this year, each cheese averaging about 65 lbs. I tasted several, which were most excellent, some resembling Cheddar, and others Cheshire. All the best cheeses go to England.

There are an immense number of cheese factories in this neighbourhood, all worked pretty much on the same plan. The cheeses are kept in large iced cellars till ready for shipment. They are brought in from the factories between the months of June and November. The temperature of the ice cellars requires to be most regular, otherwise they would not keep. I tasted some a year old, which had not the slightest appearance of mould.

Nov. 1.—Left Ingersoll at 6.30 a.m. Went through Hamilton, &c., to Niagara Falls. Beautiful view of Hamilton from Dundas. Very little wheat land. Well timbered; good orchards; great many young peach trees; very few cattle; large vineyards; and pretty flowing rivers. Altogether the prettiest country I have seen. The station at Hamilton is much the neatest I have seen on this continent.

At Grimsby the orchards seemed very large, and the land very good, though wet. It probably looks worse than usual just now, as they have had constant rain for some weeks in these parts. At Thorold I took a carriage, and drove across eight miles to Niagara Falls. I meant to visit some farms, but it rained and dleeted the whole way. The roads were in a dreadful state, and were almost impassable when we got to Tramways, near Niagara Falls.

I left Niagara Falls at 3 p.m., Nov. 2, and got to Hamilton at 4.30. It poured the whole way, but I could see much of the country wanted draining. There were very few cattle in the fields, all being given up to orchards. It seems a pity there is not more mixed farming, as peaches have been a failure, and apples a bad crop this year. Grapes have been very plentiful, but only fetched  $2\frac{1}{2}$  cents a lb. I passed a factory for making them into wine. The country must be lovely in summer.

Nov. 3.—Went into the market this morning to look at the meat, &c. Vegetables not so good as in Manitoba. Beef poor; some good lamb, or, rather, young mutton: dressed, 60 lbs. apiece. Best cuts of beef,  $12\frac{1}{2}$  cents per lb.

Spoke to an old Devonshire butcher, who has been here 35 years (from Bideford). Has thirteen children—five sons all butchering in the States; three married daughters; the former consider Hamilton "slow." Old man thinks that people have little power over their children in this country; they soon lose their influence over them.

Went with Mr. Hendry to see his horses. Mr. Hendry is the Pickford of Canada, and has here and in other places about 5,000 horses. He has the finest draught horses in Canada, all bought in the country or bred by himself; they are all out of country-bred mares by Shire, Clydesdale, or Suffolk Punches. He does not like Percherons. I saw some splendid teams. All are weighed, and matched, principally by weight, and some were 17.3 in height. The weight of two of them was 1,770 lbs. and 1,790 lbs. An ordinary pair would cost \$400. They can pull 9 tons on wheels, 11 tons on sledges. All wheel-making, cart-making, shoeing, &c., done on the premises. Shoeing averages \$2 a horse per month.

Mr. Hendry, jun., considers that the tallest horses have the greatest power of moving a heavy load.

Mr. Hendry drove me out to his farm, about six miles from Hamilton, to see his thoroughbred stock. His farm was a lovely one, composed of hills, valleys, timber, and having several small streams running through it. He had three thoroughbred stallions, one of them a great beauty—"Strathspey," by "Glenelg," out of "La Polka" ("Glenelg" was by "Citadel"). He had 64 animals on this farm, many of the thoroughbreds showing great substance. He has several

horses in training, and we saw some of his yearlings gallop on his private course. He showed me some splendid mares. The clover eddiah on this farm showed an excellent plant. After spending some hours there, Mr. Hendry drove me to his charming residence overlooking the town, where I was received at luncheon by his family in the kindest way.

In afternoon, drove with Mr. Smith, Dominion Immigration Agent. Went to Mr. Barnes's, who has a large vinery, orchard, &c. Has 9 acres of apples—none sold this year; some pears—sold \$100; 20 acres of vines—sold 55 tons at 2½ cents a lb. = £27 an acre; no pigs; one cow; no peaches. Expense of garden, \$900 a year. Gives his head man \$300 a year, with house, and ground for vegetables; ordinary labourer, \$1½ a day.

Drove all round the bay, and across a new cut to the harbour, to Mr. Fothergill's farm, with Mr. Smith. This is one of the most substantial houses I have seen in Canada. Good rooms and kitchens, and splendid cellars, full of potatoes, apples, &c. He is a most cheery and hard-working man. His wife and daughter were milking when we arrived, and he was about to do the same.

Mr. Fothergill has some good stock, also about 40 cows. He sends the milk to Toronto. This farm has 240 acres, and three miles off he has another farm of 250 acres. He came out here from Northumberland about 30 years ago, with nothing. He has had 17 children—13 alive. Five of his sons are farming. His crops were indifferent this year—wheat, 27 bushels to acre; barley, 23 bushels to acre; oats, 40 bushels to acre. He has often had 80 or 90 bushels of oats to acre, and 40 of barley.

Mr. Fothergill prefers Clydesdales to Shires for this country. Pays his labourers 75 cents a day, ordinary work; \$1.50 at harvest time. Mr. Fothergill says you can rent good land at \$4 to \$5 an acre about here. Land on Middle Road (the best near Hamilton) is worth from \$80 to \$100 an acre. Got home at 8 p.m. Roads abominable.

Some Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire men came to see me in the evening. One—a tailor named Thorpe, from Nottingham—seemed a very intelligent man. He is quite satisfied, though his wife is a little home-sick. They have been here three years. Gets good wages; but house rent and coals are dear. Complains, like me, of the meat. Hours, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., with an hour for dinner. Almost all piece-work.

Nov. 5.—Meant to go on to Toronto to-day; but heard that there was to be a ploughing match in the neighbourhood, so determined to stay to see it.

Asked Mr. Smith, one of the best farmers in the neighbourhood, about his yield this year. Only got 20 bushels of wheat and barley to the acre. Never uses cake or artificial manure; considers turning over the sod of clover sufficient manure. Some top-dress the wheat after it appears above ground. Complains, much as we do in England, that the sons now want "rigs" (carriages), and the girls organs; and that times are not good in consequence.

Went on to Toronto in the evening. Stayed with Mr. Bridgeman Simpson.

Nov. 6.—Went to Barrie, about 50 miles. Land good in parts, but no very good-looking farms. Farms can be bought about here for about \$40 an acre, with house, &c.

Saw Barrand, tailor, from Fulbeck. Went to his house; saw his wife and four children. Has been out nine years. Had saved at one time about \$700, with own house and furniture, but lost all by fire. Gets \$9 a week when in work; his wages for year would average about \$7 a week. Wife does most of her own sewing. Books for school, about \$1 a year when children are young; more later. Barrand pays \$4½ a month house rent; has five rooms, all on ground floor, with back-yard for chickens, &c. Pays for beef 12½ cents per lb.; bread, 11 cents for 4-lb. loaf (but loaf does not weigh 4 lbs.); butter, 18 cents per lb.; coals, \$6 per ton; wood, \$3½ a cord (lasts a month in winter). Has now got his own furniture paid for, and is beginning to look up again.

Saw also at Barrie a young man named Brown, from Leadenham. Is doing remarkably well as a market gardener; wishes he had come out five years sooner. Used to get \$30 a month, and board, but has now been admitted as partner in the business. Lives with his partner, and pays \$10 a month for board. Have 30 acres, 20 acres of which are strawberries. Have hothouses, &c., and sell plants in the spring.

Nov. 7.—Left Toronto, at 9, with Mr. Wade, a gentleman connected with the Agricultural Department of the province, and two of my fellow-delegates (the first I had seen since the 1st of October), for Whitby, about 30 miles. We passed some good land near Whitby, and some excellent cart-horses (Clydesdales). We drove to the farm of Mr. Dryden, who is Minister of Agriculture for the province. He entertained us at luncheon, and afterwards showed us some most superior Shorthorns and several young bulls in prime condition; also some excellent Shropshire ram lambs, and a Clydesdale mare with the best foal I have seen in the country. Mr. Dryden's father was one of the earlier importers of stock in this country, and his son carries on the business most judiciously. He farms about 400 acres, and lived on that only, till he became Minister. He has a most comfortable house, good barns, &c. I am sorry to say we had not time to walk over his farm. What we saw seemed well cultivated. We got back to Toronto at 6.30 p.m.

Dr. Barnardo has a Home in Toronto, which I visited to-day; it seemed admirably managed. There were no boys, however, in the house at the present moment. About 300 come out every year; they are all applied for long before they come, and there are now 30 or 40 applications from farmers on the books. Ages, from 12 to 16. Agreements in print are made with farmers, who keep them till they are 18, unless they separate by mutual consent. Almost all become farmers; no town applications are entertained. About 5 per cent. only returned for misconduct, &c. Farmers agree to pay \$100 at the end of their service; no great difficulty in getting the money. There are visitors going round to see the boys all the year. One gentleman I saw had just returned from an eight weeks' tour; had seen about 100 boys; had not had to remove

one, and only slight faults found. The boys are placed in a district of about 160 miles north to south and 80 east to west. A good many of them have money in the Savings Bank to begin with when they are 18; they are not lost sight of, after that even, if possible. The boys come out in batches early in the spring, and go on to July; it is not advisable that they should come out later. Some farmers complain that they are slow; but of course they have all to learn. The superintendent thinks that about \$3½ a month would be the average earnings of a boy; of course he is found board, washing, and mending by the farmer.

Nov. 8.—Left Toronto at 9.15 at night, and got to Montreal at 8 a.m. on the 9th. Rain and sleet all day. In the evening met General Grant, who has a son who took up a section of 160 acres near Griswold, in Manitoba; has now, with a young man named Lawder, from Australia, 640 acres more, seven miles from Griswold; 150 of former are broken up. Had 105 acres of wheat and 45 acres of oats this year; got 25 bushels of wheat to acre this year. Have 25 head of cattle, mare and foal, and five other horses, one team oxen, 20 hogs. House of four rooms and kitchen. Neither of young men had anything to begin with, but have had from friends about \$1,000 since. They are now running a livery stable also, and consider themselves worth £2,000. When all the land is paid for, which will be in about a year, they are about as successful a pair of young "gentlemen farmers" as I have heard of. Mr. Lawder had four years' experience of bush life in Australia. Mr. Grant came out at 17.

Nov. 10.—Left Montreal at 8 a.m. for the Eastern Townships. Country round St. Hilaire, St. Hyacinthe, &c., occupied by French. Long, narrow fields; plenty of poor-looking stock in the fields; enormous churches and convents everywhere, and many tidy houses.

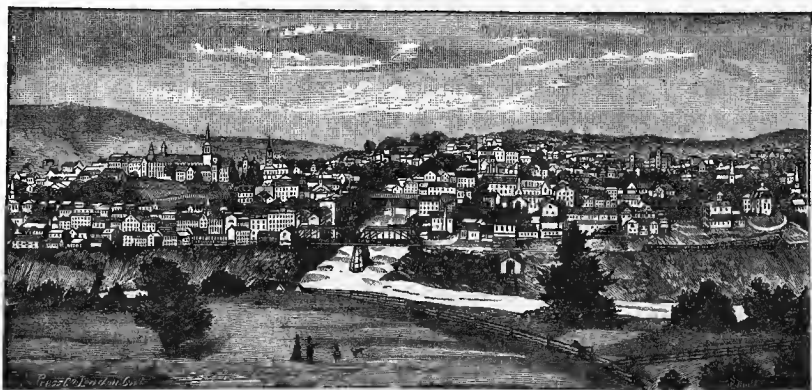
Towards Richmond the country became very pretty, with numerous fine rivers and wooded hills. It was principally a grazing country. The farm-houses much occupied by people from Europe, and some very neatly kept. Passed some large copper mines.

Met Mr. Beevor—a Nottinghamshire man—employed on the railway. Saw some good Herefords, and also a few good-looking colts.

At about 12.30 reached Hillhurst, a station near where Mr. Cochrane has his famous farm. It is needless for me to write about Mr. Cochrane and his farm, stock, &c. His name is known all over Europe as a most successful breeder, and I believe he has obtained for his cattle as large a price as anyone in Europe. I believe his great fancy at one time was Shorthorns, but at present he breeds black Polled Angus cattle, Herefords, trotting horses, and Yorkshire pigs. His yards, stables, &c., are very complete. In his business at this farm he is principally assisted by his eldest son, leaving his large ranch west to the care of his two younger sons. He farms here about 1,000 acres. His stock consists of 99 black cattle, 76 Herefords, 25 Jerseys, 15 other cattle, 200 sheep, 57 horses, and 15 pigs. He intends sending all the Herefords to the ranch, and keeping black cattle only. Wages, about \$1 a day; monthly, \$15, and board; married men, \$23 a month.

At page 44 I mentioned that from the Cochrane Ranch they had shipped about 1,000 cattle to Liverpool this year. Mr. Cochrane

sent his son with them, and took all risks himself. The venture proved very satisfactory. Part of the cattle arrived in first-rate order—in fact, they rather improved on the voyage. They averaged about £17 a head at Liverpool. Young Mr. Cochrane wrote to say he saw some killed, and they “died” well, and the purchaser was well satisfied. Mr. Cochrane had not received an account of the last batch. These cattle were all weighed by car-load at Montreal, but were not weighed at Liverpool; but he considered they were worth  $4\frac{1}{2}$  cents a lb. at Montreal. They were all well bred, there being 250 Herefords in one lot. Mr. Cochrane confirms what I have before heard—that the loss of 200 lbs. weight in cattle between Calgary and Liverpool takes place on the railway, and not on board ship. Of course no one has had more experience in this matter than Mr. Cochrane, as he has shipped pedigree cattle to and from Europe for the last 30 years, and has always been most successful in the business. Mr. Cochrane was able to give me a printed statement of the ranch, showing a good profit on the working of last year. This year he expects it to be better.



SHERBROOKE, EASTERN TOWNSHIPS.

Nov. 11.—After a delightful visit at Mr. Cochrane's, I left at 6.30 this morning for Quebec. I had meant to stop at Sherbrooke, but the trains were so awkward that I could not do so. I would have driven, but there were 21 degrees of frost this morning, and the roads were dreadfully rough, so I had to give it up. I meant to visit Lennoxville, where 300 young boys and men are educated excellently in a college I had long heard of. At Sherbrooke I should have wished to visit an institution for waifs and strays, managed by the Rev. Canon Thornloe. I heard this highly spoken of.

There are several manufactories at Sherbrooke, a town of 10,000 inhabitants. I had to go on, however, to Richmond, and wait there two hours for the train from Montreal.

I made a good deal of inquiry about farms in this very pretty country, and found that about \$30 an acre would buy a nice cleared

one, with good water, good house, and plantation of firewood. This sounds cheaper and better than the prices in Ontario. The country is certainly much prettier, but the winters are longer and more severe than in Ontario.

There is not much agricultural land between Richmond and Point Levi, opposite Quebec, but some grand rivers are passed. The woods were particularly beautiful this morning, every twig being covered with what is called "verglas"; the whole forest shone like diamonds. We arrived at Point Levi about 2.30, and crossed over to Quebec. I drove straight to my dear friends the Prices', at Wolfsfield.

At 9 this morning I embarked on board the Allan steamship "Parisian," after a delightful and most interesting trip of two months and seven days in the Dominion; and, after a prosperous voyage in that most comfortable ship, arrived at Liverpool on Saturday, the 22nd November.

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## CONCLUSION.

I have been frequently asked on my journey what I think of Canada. I reply that it is difficult in ten weeks to give a decided opinion on a country larger than that from the Rock of Gibraltar to the northern part of Russia. The delegates, however, have had exceptional opportunities of seeing the resources, &c., of the country, having covered 10,000 miles of ground, exclusive of our sea voyage.

I have no hesitation myself in saying that the Dominion of Canada is a most favourable country for emigrants of certain classes. It must remain with the emigrant himself to choose where to settle. For this reason one should hesitate to give advice; but were I to do so, it would be on the following lines:—

1. A man with a certain amount of capital could buy a nice farm, with good house and cleared land, at about \$30 (£6) an acre, in the Eastern Townships, and many parts of Quebec and Ontario. By doing so, he would avoid the hardships of Manitoba and the North-West; he would be in the midst of comparative comfort and society, and within easy reach of markets, schools, &c.

2. A small farmer or labouring man, with one or two boys ranging from 12 to 16, and girls of the same stamp, could find occupation, and be sure of a competency hereafter, wherever he went; but he would perhaps have a better opening in Manitoba and the North-West. The work would be severe, particularly for the parents; but there is no reason why the children of such persons should not rise to the highest positions in the province. In fact, this has been the origin of many of the most prominent men in the State. The Government offers especial facilities to such people, and there are millions of acres of good prairie land waiting for good men to occupy them.

3. The above remarks equally apply to young unmarried men of the same class.

4. For mechanics or market gardeners I would recommend British Columbia, where wages are very high, and the climate admirably suited to gardening, as would appear by my Report.

5. For sons of professional men, officers of the Army, &c., it is more difficult to speak. They are a numerous class in the North-West; but neither I nor my fellow-delegates are able to speak very hopefully of their prospects. Their life is a hard one; and I could not find many who were more than "stopping." There are, of course, many exceptions; but I think a great many were little more than "remittance farmers," and several might be called farmers who farmed with a "scatter-gun and a smell-dog." Very few have received a training to suit them for the Jack-of-all-trades work of a Western farm. There are many who do their best; but all their education at our public schools goes for naught when on a farm in this country. Many of them, in consequence, seem almost to lose heart, and live worse than many labourers would do in England. Still, I am bound to say that, even among this class, I never heard any grumbling; and numbers told me that they infinitely preferred this life to that of a clerk or other sedentary occupation in Europe. There seems a charm about the independent life of the West that suits our youth. The question is, How will they be in their old age?\*

6. It appeared to me that the ranch life is much more suited to a gentleman brought up to the pleasures of British country life. In this case there is constant excitement—riding after horses and cattle, with a hunt occasionally after wolves and cayotes—but then capital is wanted; for it appeared to me that ranching, except on a large scale, is seldom remunerative. For men who want a few years' discipline and rough life, I can fancy nothing better than the work and freedom and air of a ranch near the Rocky Mountains.

7. I wish I could speak of the Maritime Provinces of Canada, which, I believe, have charms of their own. I, unfortunately, was not able to visit them.

There is one element in Canada which ought not to be lost sight of by an emigrant to the West, viz., the advantages of the Dominion over the United States. It is almost impossible to take up an American paper without reading in it some startling murder perpetrated in the Western States. The shooting by judges, colonels, &c., of one another seems of daily occurrence; and little punishment seems to follow, except occasionally by Judge Lynch. Even in Chicago, revolvers, I was told, were worn by peaceful citizens; whereas in Canada all is order, even in the wildest parts.

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\* In qualification of the above passage in my report on the prospects of young "gentlemen" in Canada, I am happy to give the names of two most trustworthy gentlemen who came home with me in the "Parisian." General Grant has a son settled near Griswold, Manitoba. According to the General, his son and his partner, Mr. Lawder, are doing particularly well. Mr. W. H. Porritt has four sons, all married, living on their sections near Holland, in South Manitoba. Mr. Porritt speaks most hopefully of their prospects. He knows the country well, having taken up a section eight years ago. He sees an immense advance in Manitoba during that time. I believe none of the above young men were educated at our large public schools.—F. A. F.



I may mention that I was in no village where Sunday was not as well kept as, or perhaps better than, it is in England. I never attended a meal at a storekeeper's, public dinner, or settler's where grace was not said before sitting down; and everywhere the most enthusiastic loyalty was shown. I think it difficult to find any country where there is less rowdyism and drunkenness than in Canada. I don't mean to say that there is not a good deal of whisky-drinking at bars. There is no doubt far too much of it, and it is most injurious to many men; but I should say that, taking them as a whole, the population of the Dominion of Canada is decidedly an abstemious one.

I can only conclude by saying that the emigrant from the old country will find, if he goes to Canada, a most kind-hearted and hospitable people, ever ready to help a new hand. For myself, I can only say that, from high to low, from one end of the country to the other, I was received with most unbounded kindness and hospitality, and my visit was indeed made a real pleasure to me during the whole time I was in the country.



WINNIPEG.

## THE REPORT OF MR. ROBERT PITT,

Crickett Court, Ilminster.

I HAVE the honour to present my Report of the result of my journey through Canada, during the period commencing September 4th, and ending November 6th, 1890.

In the first place, I wish to tender my thanks for the honour shown by my selection for such work, and can but trust that the result may be satisfactory.

The opening of the local Agricultural Society's Show at Toronto was the means of my seeing an exceptionally well-patronised annual exhibition, which, for a purely local show—or annual “Fair,” as it is looked upon by part of the population—is not to be beaten by any of our English agricultural societies. The exhibits of cattle, horses, fruit, and agricultural implements were particularly large, giving me the idea that I was to see a distinctly progressive country. The exhibit of cheese did not appear large, seeing that the statistics make it the most valuable export of the country, next to lumber, and also that the prize for the premier cheese at the Show was a sum equal to £12 English money. Other exhibits at this Show—such as carriages, waggons, stoves, bee-keeping appliances—were made an attractive feature in quantity, and, indeed, in excellence. Fruit deserves a special mention, as growing it is evidently a staple industry, and at all times it is a very cheap and welcome diet in the Province of Ontario. Summer pears and apples shown indicated that they were largely grown, and eminently suited to the climate. In pears, the names “Beurré du Congress” and “Joséphine de Malines” are a fine and useful variety of summer sorts; but in mid-autumn I found the supply of good pears, such as the English “Aston Town,” deficient. In apples, the “Duchess of Oldenburg,” the “Snow,” the “Gravenstein,” and amongst cookers the “King Tompkin Co.,” are A1. Grapes, white and black, outdoor and indoor grown, made a large show, and are immensely popular with the people here, some varieties being excellent eating, even the sorts with very small berries; but there is much room for improvement in propagation of other sorts which have a peculiar flavour, which is quite an acquired taste.

This branch is receiving careful attention at the Head Experimental Farm at Ottawa, under the able supervision of Professor Saunders, Director of Dominion Government Experimental Farms, of which there are five throughout the Dominion. The conception of this policy (of creating these farms) for the advancement of agriculture and assistance of farmers throughout Canada, is due to the Hon. John Carling, M.P., Minister of Agriculture, and is an estimable work—one that Great Britain has never done, but might justly copy. As the term “Experimental” signifies, they are no so-called “Colleges” for young men whereat to play at farming, but orthodox farms in every sense, where crops of ordinary acreage, and not plots,

are scientifically, but practically, taken off the land in the best conceived rotation. The Ottawa Farm is not in the best agricultural district of Canada, but is carefully selected for variety of soils. A large amount of work has been got through in its three years' existence, making it look in profitable order for its particular requirements. The essence of the system is to grow all crops, and feed all stock suitable, or likely to be suitable, to the country. The results are printed in annual reports, pamphlets or bulletins being issued periodically, as occasion requires; and every farmer throughout the Dominion, whose address is once obtained, is supplied with these free by post, without any subscription or payment being required of him. Thus a system is inaugurated, and is doing more valuable work each year, by which every farmer in Canada's Western, Central, or Eastern Provinces may at all times gain insight and advice from the Experimental Farm of his own province, or the Head Farm at Ottawa. The whole work done here shows advanced management, with a thoroughly honest purpose, which is very refreshing. Almost every branch of agriculture is taken in hand, from corn-growing to chicken-breeding, grass culture to tree-rearing—of which latter a promising experiment is now making good way towards success in Russian pines for planting in the, at present, treeless zones of the prairies, which may have the effect in a few years of making these as good in this respect as any other parts.

In perusing this Report, or considering the qualities and capabilities of any land, careful reference should always be made to a map, and, for preference, a map of the provinces of the country, or "countries" by themselves, as each province in this immense Canada may be styled. To arrive at an idea of the size of countries before having travelled over them, is very difficult, and it is especially so with Canada, because she is the largest *civilised* country in the world. The area of her inland lakes and rivers would just float Great Britain and Ireland, and yet leave a strip of water all round, so that they would still be islands. Comparing Canada with other continents, she is, roughly speaking, the same size as the whole of Europe; half a million square miles larger than the United States of America (without Alaska); also about the same number of square miles larger than Australia. In exact figures, Canada has 3,379,000 square miles of land, and 140,000 square miles of principal lakes and rivers, making in all 3,519,000 square miles.

This immense territory is divided into provinces, many of which are themselves larger than, or about as large as, our own most extensive European countries. For instance, Manitoba is rather larger than England and Wales; Ontario and Quebec are each about the same size as the German Empire; British Columbia is one and a half times as large as Germany; and Alberta, Athabasca, Assiniboia, and Saskatchewan are about half as large as that empire. When we learn that Germany supports 45 million souls on her 211,000 square miles, which is equal to 216 people to each mile, it will be apparent to what extent Canada is now capable of expansion, the present population numbering only about 5,000,000. All this country

is now so close to us that it is reached in seven days' steaming (and soon will be four and a half), with almost perfect immunity from accident; the centre of the continent in three days more by rail; and it is crossed in another three—making only 13 days in all, or less than half the time taken to reach Australia.

Passing through from England, it was necessary for me to visit Toronto, in Ontario, for the sake of the Show then in progress; after which, in order to make a round trip, the Provinces of Manitoba, Assiniboia, and Alberta were visited in order named, returning by the Great Lakes to Ontario, thence through New Brunswick and Nova Scotia home.

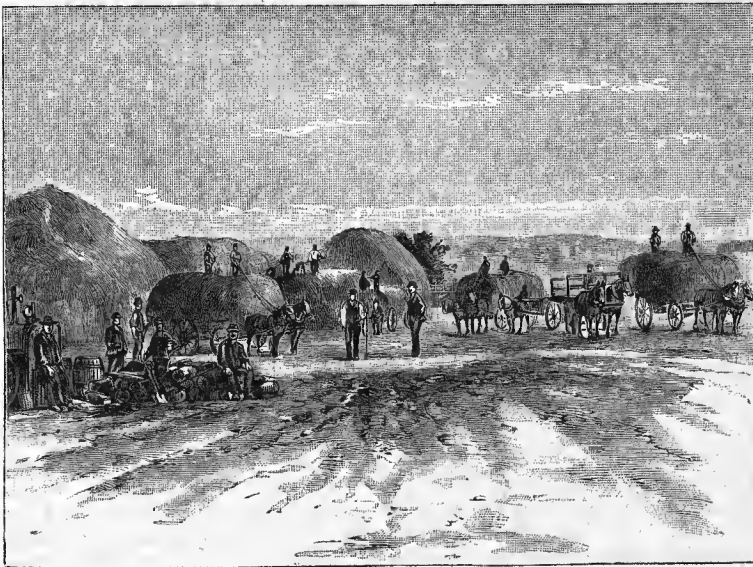
Winnipeg is the fortunate town so easily found on the map of Canada by putting one's thumb down in the centre of it. On arrival at this town of startling growth, the capital of the easternmost of the great prairie districts, Lieut.-Governor Schultz held out a kindly welcome, as he does to all citizens in this free country. Now getting on to the land of Manitoba south-west of Winnipeg, and making calls at different farms quite at random, in the hope of arriving at an average of what can be done in each locality, a neat brick house near Silver Heights attracted attention—that of Mr. Tait, of St. James's, the son of a Hudson Bay Company's *employé*. On the 100-acre farm here he has built this good house, and also put his son out on another farm in a neighbouring grazing district, from which 40 head of cattle had just been shipped to England as part of the year's produce of this farm, and 60 horses are constantly kept for breeding and drafting from. Upon the home farm had been reaped this year 40 acres of wheat, yielding 30 bushels per acre. No manure was used for this result, and it is only put on for raising potatoes. Two adjoining farms had been sold last month—one for £10 per acre, and the other for £8 per acre. These were improved farms, with house and buildings on them. It must be remembered that there was in 1881-3 a land boom in Winnipeg, since which time a great depreciation has been felt. The effect of this has now passed over, and land is decidedly on the increase again, so that for this locality the above values are about the thing. The land here is a good loam, with a clay subsoil, and may be called a heavy land for this country. Following out south-west from here, the original prairie is still unbroken for many miles; not for want of being taken up, but it is held for speculation, being near Winnipeg. Around Carman, a station on what is called the Glenboro' Railroad, things seemed busy this season; a grain elevator being at work, and much stimulus for building being apparent. The settlement, though only 10 years old, has full-fledged municipal machinery in operation. I saw some grain samples here, but quite the first to come in, and wanting in colour. Treherne, another station along this road, and colonised now 12 years, has a flour mill, belonging to a different owner from that of the elevator which is found here, as at almost every station now. It is always an advantage for a place to have a flour mill and an elevator, or two elevators under different ownership.

Made a careful inspection of the crofters' settlement between Hilton and Belmont Stations, on the Northern Pacific and Manitoba

line. There are 12 families here from Harris—one of the islands of the Western Hebrides of Scotland—and 18 from the island of Lewis. These people were sent out in 1888 as an experiment under a Government grant system, but were sent too late—in June—that year to secure any crops; and the season of 1889 having been a very bad one, this year is the first in which they can hope to make any profit. The repayment of their advances does not commence for more than two years, so that they have ample time to get into a satisfactory financial position. Taking one or two examples out of these 30 families: First, Mr. and Mrs. Stewart, with a young family of sons and daughters, one daughter being big enough to work in the house, had now got 60 of their own 160 acres under wheat crop, and 30 rented from a neighbour. From this they expected to secure 2,000 bushels this year. They had 20 head of cattle, several pigs, and some fowls; sold butter and eggs to neighbours; had a pony and buckboard, a fair cow-house and stable, and two-roomed dwelling-house, with a well of water only 15 feet deep. Next take Duncan Macdonald and wife, and their grown-up son, neighbours about three miles from above-mentioned family. Here was a fair dwelling-house, with outhouses being made round it in good fashion, and a milk-house sunk underground; denoting good progress. The locality here was very nice-looking, with good top soil of loam, near the Tiger Hills, which, although not high, give a pleasing appearance to the country, and are well watered. So that, seeing the progress made, and remembering the bad harvest the crofters contended with in 1889, the experiment must be considered a success, as they are all still on the land, and probably in a position to pay off this year a part of the mortgage taken by the Government for security of their loan if it had been due. The system of colonisation by free grants—or “homesteading,” as it is called—is the same all over the North-West of Canada. A homesteader may select a quarter-section, which is 160 acres, wherever he finds it unoccupied. By living on it six months a year for three years, and bringing a reasonable area into cultivation, it becomes his own for ever; and he can also secure for small payment an adjoining section if it happens to be vacant.

At Kindower House, five miles from Glenboro', met Mr. Watson, who came out four years ago from Yorkshire. Has two daughters and five sons, two of whom are now able to help him; therefore he is well suited for a colonist's life. He began by renting a farm, some way off from here, and had bad luck, a frost nipping off nearly all his crop; but he plucked up courage, and managed to buy his present farm, which is nicely situated on good, rich-looking soil—140 acres being under crop this year out of 160. Has 16 head of cattle, a pair of horses, &c., &c., and managed to borrow a pair of oxen to help to harvest his wheat this year. Expected his wheat crop to thresh out 40 bushels per acre, which would probably fetch 75 cents, or about 3s., per bushel at his station. Adjoining this farm was that of Mr. Smeaton, an able young man, who came to the country two years ago, working for an employer the first year. This plan cannot be too greatly emphasised. As every farmer knows, changing country is most deceiving, always meaning a change of system, and much more so when going to a far-off

country. A person taking up land here should certainly have resided in the country one or two years, during which time good wages may be made; and, board and lodging being always found, these wages come in towards capital for starting with. Driving across the prairies from Glenboro' in a westerly direction, numbers of good thriving settlements are passed. The country is undulating to a pleasing degree, and the soil a rich-looking dark loam, in many places showing considerable thickness. The prairie in this district is not the often-imagined everlasting flat, but situated under the north slope of the Tiger Hills, and dotted with farms and woods, which make it quite pretty. Mr. Rothwell's farm at Northfield, near Wawanesa, had a clean, well-worked appearance, the whole being in very good order, with a flock of healthy Down and Leicester cross of sheep, a field of roots, nice clumps of wood copse about, and a good road through it. Another—the Elliott Settlement—just west of Wawanesa, was a thoroughly good-looking district, and thriving, though some crops had been cut by a hailstorm this year. The picture here presented to the eye is very wonderful, the land being largely broken up, *i.e.*, cultivated. It presented on driving through, one sea of wheat, oats, or barley—some standing, others in the sheaf, or in stacks, or being carried; men and horses and oxen dotted about over the whole, working truly their hardest while daylight lasted each day; and far and near in the summer sun glistened the log huts, and, in many cases, well-built houses, of all these workers. West of this, round Minnewawa (a pleasant-looking, thriving place), as the railroad is only just making, there is considerable room for home-steading. The country is of undulating character, good, rich top soil for the most part, and good water within 20 feet of surface.



FARM SCENE, MANITOBA

At Souris, a town some 22 miles S.W. of Brandon, situated on the river of same name, there now is much stir, there being railway communication, elevators, flour mill, saw mills, &c. The Souris is a small and shallow river of great length (about 800 miles), draining for a large part of its length a fine, rich country. The town has been in existence eight years, and has now about 700 inhabitants, the district having been taken up by a company, who paid the Government \$1, or 4s., per acre. By this system the Government retains every other section for homesteading, and it might be made a help to colonisation if the company in these instances was obliged to sell at any time at current value; but as they hold for profit, this generally retards a district. They do, however, sell a considerable area every year. The price of such lands ranges from 16s. to 24s. per acre, spread over a term of years. A farmer at Souris said he threshed out 40 acres of wheat this year, yielding 40 bushels per acre, and sold for 80 cents, or 3s. 4d. nominal, per bushel. At Beresford, near here, Mr. Smith has a successful farm of 600 acres, in grass, wheat, and roots; a stock of 60 horses; and breeds pedigree cattle; and being what is called *salt* land—namely, having deposits of alkali salts—he believes in making manure for it. This is a knotty point at present amongst the settlers, but one which is likely to be settled all one way. Many farmers at present in the North-West say the prairie is so rich in nitrates that it will not stand manuring, and that the land will never be improved by manure. A certain amount of success, however, has already been made, as in Mr. Smith's case at Beresford, by manuring this salt land; and it appears that after a few years' dressing for root crops, it becomes good wheat land. Doubtless, as has been the case in other new countries, the first settlers here find the soil so rich that they are not obliged to grow anything but wheat; and the winters being long, requiring animals to be fed six months, they are disinclined to begin this course of farming. Experience will no doubt prove, after a few crops of wheat have been taken off the land consecutively, that manure will be needed to keep up the yield; so that the early use of well-rotted farmyard manure will mean the necessity for keeping stock, and hence the greater enrichment of the soil and the farmers at the earliest possible date.

There is great discussion at present as to whether straw, made into manure, will rot in the climate of the North-West, and it is difficult to find any genuine attempts as yet; but there can be little doubt of success, if properly treated. Doubtless it must take longer than in a moist climate; but if deposited in a sunk midden, and turned over twice a year, mixed and covered with a little soil, it will rot well in three years. It would, however, pay in the long run better than putting on the ground in half-rotten state. There is great disposition, even in Ontario, to use farmyard manure only half rotted; this being evidently carelessness, or fear of expense. It is noticeable, in contradistinction to this, that some in Ontario are now looking to the liquid manure—saving it in strawyard with tanks below—which many an English farmer has yet to learn to do, and will do, as time goes on. Burning the straw in the North-West appears a sinful operation, even at this early period of the country's history. Were this

buried now on a waste corner, it must come in as a useful fertiliser some years hence, when many a one will be glad of it. It is possible, owing to the action of frost on it during winter, if only buried a foot or two, it will take some years to rot; but whether or no, the fact remains, it will then be available for turning over, and at worst will come in handy for setting potatoes in. The reprehensible practice of burning, it is argued, leaves some manure behind; but how much? The majority, and the most valuable, of the manurial properties are lost in the air.



HARVESTING AT SANDISON'S FARM, BRANDON.

Mr. Sandison, of Brandon, kindly showed his large wheat and oat farms: this expression, "wheat and oat farms," is used because at present nothing else is attempted. Here are 1,850 acres under crop this year—the best Red Fyfe wheat seed being used, and Canadian black oat—all this in one broad stretch of country together, without a division; and of hedges, of course, there are none. With 12 binding harvesters, taking about 60 horses to work them, two threshing machines, and 60 men at work, with the expectation of 30 bushels of wheat and 70 of oats per acre, this ought to make a farmer's heart glad. Mr. Sandison is one who studies his labour question. He engages men for all the year round, paying at present in his section of country \$35 per month (£7) in summer, for say, five months, and \$20 per month (£4) in winter, with board and lodging as well in all cases. (This applies only to single men; in the case of married people farmers do not yet supply houses in these parts.) This secures a constant supply of good men; but, unfortunately, those farmers holding only 160 acres each, say they are unable to pay wages during winter months, consequently they find it difficult in harvest to obtain any labourers at



even higher wages, because men cannot be got to go long distances for a few weeks during harvest. This labour difficulty is, gradually of course, working itself out. Many farmers in the Province of Ontario now build houses for the best men; those homesteaders on 160 acres who have sons growing up have enough labour at harvest for themselves, and help their neighbours in turn; still it must be many years before demand for harvesters can be satisfied, and it would be a vast help to the country if in some seasons the Dominion Government could institute a system of free passes per ship and rail from distant parts, arranging for annual hirings to take place in the districts requiring labour. There are similar systems at work throughout Great Britain of very old standing, when the railways carry harvesters at very low rates; though in Canada's case the distances would be too great without some State help—or it might emanate from the province, forming a tax upon the inhabitants which would be for the general benefit of the whole community.

The migration of male and female servants is now systematically and admirably looked after by several societies in England. The British Women's Emigration Society, under the guidance of the Hon. Mrs. Joyce, of Winchester, sends out personally conducted parties of females annually, providing situations, and also homes for them should they at any time be out of situation, but such an event need not often happen, as the demand is constant. There is a considerable amount of friction on the part of employers of servants, who complain of the independence of those in their service; but this matter appears to resolve itself into a study of human nature and the management of that commodity.

Mr. Sandison's was only one of a series of successful farms found all round Brandon, Portage-la-Prairie, Elkhorn, and Indian Head; the homesteads are nearly all taken up, but plenty of land is to be bought from \$4 to \$10 per acre (16s. to £2), with buildings on. As far north from Brandon as Rapid City, farms and corn are to be seen almost without intermission. This latter place, disappointed of its railway (the Canadian Pacific Railway) about eight years ago, has been standing still, but now, with two railroads at its door, it is all the more ready to spread itself into a busy town. It has water power available, flour mill, woollen mill, brickyard, lime-kiln, all in working order. Brandon has the Manitoba branch of the Dominion Experimental Farms close by, which showed its produce of this year's Indian corn for green fodder, wheat, barleys, native grasses, and wonderful vegetables of every variety known in England, and twice the size, and some useful kinds strange to Britain.

Conversation with various authorities who buy wheat in this district proves that it is sought after for its hard qualities, experience showing that the more northerly the country the harder the grain; and Ontario millers seek it for mixing with that of their southerly province; also, the United States buy up large quantities. The grades for fineness are determined every year, and prices range accordingly. For No. 1 hard (or very best) about 80 cents per bushel has been about the price this year; for No. 2 hard (or best) about 70 cents

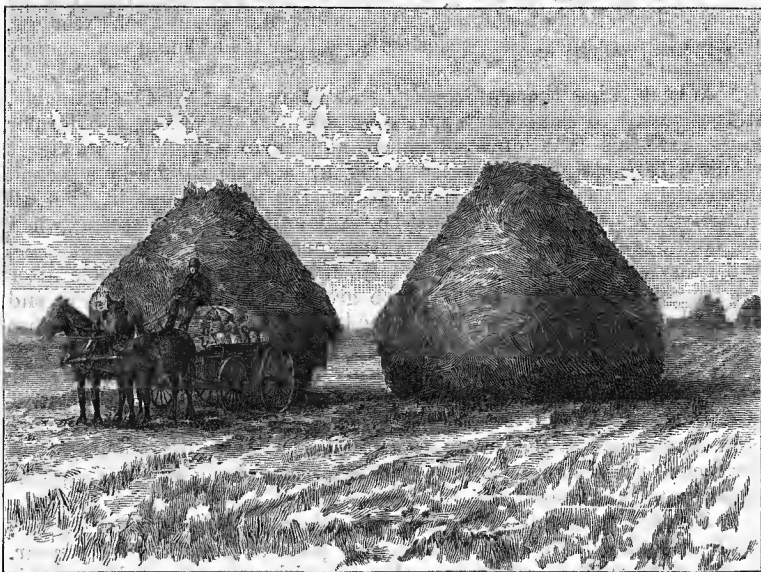
I saw paid, which was what most of this year's crop would probably fetch. Then comes grade No. 1 Northern, and No. 2 Northern, which about includes all classification, the prices ranging down to 65 cents per bushel. There being 100 cents to a dollar [4s. 2d. nominal], these prices in English money represent from 3s. 4d. to 2s. 7d. as the range known during eight or ten years past, with probably an average of 75 cents, or 3s. 1½d. English money, not counting in discount upon exchange, which will only affect the pocket of the settler if he should send money to England.

Wheat being the staple crop, and above being price obtainable, it is required to show what has to be done for it. First, the farmer must have his land once ploughed, and in breaking up prairie it requires backsetting also—*i.e.*, turning up a little subsoil by a second ploughing; this must be finished before the frost comes, in the fall of the year. Then his seed must be ready and paid for in spring, when the land does not require ploughing again, but sowing is done at once, and every nerve must be strained to finish as soon as possible after the frost is out of the surface of the ground—about the middle to end of April; then, this once over, and the land clean, there is nothing more to do to it till harvesting commences—from the middle of August to the beginning of September, so quickly do things grow. A peculiar feature of the country is that seed-time is not delayed till all the frost is out of the ground, but sowing is commenced immediately the soil is in condition for about two to three inches from the surface; then the fact of the remainder of the frost gradually rising upwards supplies moisture to the plants.

Between seed-time and harvest is when the good farmer hurries up to plough a fallow, or break a new piece of prairie for next year. I met settlers who had broken 40 acres with one pair of horses this year during this period. Many minor expenses vary with each individual farmer; but, after many inquiries, I estimate that every payment for seed, ploughing, reaping, threshing, bagging, and hauling to nearest station, will probably take 40 cents per bushel. These are all the processes the farmer has to do with, all dressing of grain being done by the merchant after buying from the farmer, who receives his money according to bargain as each load is delivered at the elevator alongside his nearest station.

No doubt the grower actually pays for cleaning and dressing the grain; but this is much better done by the merchant in this country, he having elevators and power machinery to do it with. It is an established custom also to pay for all grain upon delivery: the advantage to the farmer of this system need not be dilated upon. Now the cost price being 40 cents, and sale price 75 cents, the profit is 35 cents, but this is not yet quite all nett. There has to be taken away still two uncertain quantities—the fallowing of the land every third year, and cost of ploughing that year. If one-third of the above average receipts is deducted, it will probably suffice for these, and leave the nett result of corn-growing at 23 cents per bushel to go towards living and savings. In some instances men have started with too little capital, and had to mortgage for payment of plant, &c.; but this is a reprehensible

practice, as the danger of getting behind in a bad season is too great. Obtaining a mortgage, and engaging to pay off in five years, with interest at 6 per cent., is all very well, when once three or four years of success have been met with; but it must be remembered that in every country there are dry and wet years, also years of blight or frost.



WHEAT STACKS, MANITOBA.

Now, considering the amount in money to be made off a 160-acre homestead farm in the North-West, giving a man three years to get 130 acres under crop, and an average of only 20 bushels to the acre (which, as mentioned in other places, is no doubt considerably exceeded), this will make £119 as average profit from the wheat crop alone, besides which something will be coming in from about 28 acres remaining of the 160. It should be mentioned these figures are, if anything, under the mark, it not being desirable to overstate the possibilities of the country. Beyond this, there is at present a sure increase for a homesteader or purchaser, in the value of land.

This, no doubt, means a less comfortable home for a family for a time, but does not give much more labour, as there is no clearing of the land to be done on these prairies. Another manner for a homesteader to increase his wealth is, in the event of his having sons, to choose for them homesteads near his own, which they are entitled to on attaining the age of 18, and in this case the sons become established for life, and at the same time can help their parent in the matter of labour.

The manner of starting to work on a homestead, a settler will find out as soon as he has been in the country for a little while. The first thing done during the month of April, upon entry on the land,



PLOUGHING.

generally is to build a house (if a boarded one, this is run up in a few days, but some prefer to lodge in a tent until they can build a log one, if such timber is procurable), then plough, and get in some crop, after which ploughing is continued, and after harvest the time is occupied with ploughing and fencing. The money actually in pocket upon entry on a homestead must be at least £120, and more if possible. Taking the case of a labourer going to settle on a homestead, if he has not saved the above amount in two years' work upon a farm, he had better work another year, or agree with a landlord to work his farm, as some do, upon half profits.

The manner of taking up a homestead, which is a free gift from the Government, is as follows:—A man proposing to settle chooses a locality for himself, and any of the inhabitants near will at all times be glad to show him the lands that are vacant; but it is imperative on himself to make final choice. After making his entry in the land office, for which a small fee is charged, he can immediately commence to build his house without further formality. The settler's right to the homestead is now assured, free for ever, without any payment, except the light local taxation, subject only to his dwelling on it part of three consecutive years; and the next step is to buy his adjoining quarter-section, should he feel able to cultivate it eventually. This bought land, if taken from the Crown, has to be paid for at the current Government rate, which is now \$2½ per acre (10s.); but as this need only be paid in several annual instalments, the yearly sum is not heavy, and the taxes on it will only amount to about £2 more. Everyone should strive to become the landlord of 320 acres. Thus a man becomes a

landlord and a citizen in this new country, and may soon take his share in the management of parochial or Governmental matters. This is one way; but if a person proposing to settle has enough money, he can buy his land either from Government or private persons, thus freeing himself from obligation to homestead, which means the three years' residence. Underlying this there is the advantage of a man being able to pay up the whole price at once; otherwise there has to be added to the price, interest on the remaining unpaid balance each year for the remaining years of whatever term he chooses to pay the whole in. In Manitoba, or any other country, ownership of land means taxes and other obligations; but here they are not great at present, the only direct taxation on a 160-acre claim being about \$10 per year (£2). Then there is the obligation of each settler to give five days' labour per year, or the equivalent, to making and maintenance of roads; and that is all. Every owner of land has the right, on payment of a small license, to cut a liberal allowance of firewood for household purposes in the nearest adjoining forest district, which is always within hauling distance in Manitoba. When a farm or claim has any quantity of forest or bush on it, there is generally a present value in it, and one that will increase annually. Hay may always be collected, by obtaining a "permit" at a small fee, off adjacent marsh or prairie.

I have endeavoured to describe the state of things in Manitoba and the North-West, which is undoubtedly the country for an English labourer to go to. If he has but eight or nine pounds he can pay his passage, and, by arriving out there at seed or harvest time, he can be assured of work from that moment at a figure which will vary according to his competence; and if he will only keep himself to himself, and keep his eyes about him, he is safe to be a landlord in three years, and an established man for life. The Provinces of Assiniboia and Alberta have not yet received the same amount of incoming tide of population as Manitoba, and the same remark applies to parts of Saskatchewan and Athabaska. They are, however, being rapidly opened up by branch railways from the line of the great highway formed by the Canadian Pacific Railroad. British Columbia, with its vast mineral riches, as well as agricultural prospects, offers some inducements for certain settlers, but at present is far removed from large markets. Manitoba is fast becoming well supplied with railways, mostly diverging from Winnipeg, and although in some few spots homesteading is a thing of the past, there are plenty of free tracts still left. In saw-mills it is well supplied, and some few other industries are started, in the shape of breweries, woollen mills, lime and stone quarries, and one or two creameries. Speaking generally of its capabilities, there are vast tracts of good land, mostly rich loam top soil with clay subsoil. It is not by any means one vast flat of prairie, but has many highlands and good rivers; and, above all, water is found of good quality almost over the entire province at such a shallow depth that the anxiety of disposing of this question before settling on any section of land need hardly be thought of.

As a country for cattle and sheep, it is believed it will soon be

fruitful, in spite of long winter feeding. As soon as more mixed farming can be introduced, cattle and sheep will be required to consume roots, &c.; and there appears no reason why this should not become a large calf-rearing district, cows being made to calve down during winter, when there is time to attend to them. In this case the calves or young stock would form a supply for those grazing districts of southerly provinces. Sheep also may be kept on the Scotch crofter plan of herding the flocks of several owners who are neighbours together, putting one or two boys, with a dog, to mind them. At present there are few sheep in the whole province, the excuses given for their absence being that they cannot be kept within fences; and this may indirectly mean that the winters are cold and long, and being animals of fastidious appetite, they get tired of the dry food. These difficulties will probably be overcome by mixed crop growing, and at the same time breeding a hardy race of sheep. Disease, at any rate, will never be a drawback in the North-West. In Ontario every kind of beast thrives; foot-rot is hardly known, and pleuro never heard of.

Fowls appear to tell a different tale: they require artificial warmth to make them do well; but the fact has its advantages, as eggs and chickens sell well. Pig-keeping naturally follows dairying, and will here extend with it without difficulty; although it may very well, to a certain extent, precede it, as a few pigs may easily be kept without cows—food being supplied in shape of Indian corn, grown as a green crop, small potatoes, cabbages, &c.—the selling price for good young pork being high enough to make it worth while doing.

Some progress is made with planting trees for shade, lumber, and fruit purposes; and they cannot be placed in the ground soon enough, as they are badly wanted, or thick enough, as trees make finer, straighter stems when planted close, and it destroys the symmetry so much to have irregularity in height some years hence. It is much easier to plant a few extra, placing 5 feet apart, instead of 10 feet, and thinning out when required, than to persuade larger transplanted ones to grow eventually. The fine and favourite maple grows here more freely from seed than from nursery plants, and therefore can be within reach of everyone, costing, as it does, next to nothing.

Getting into the Province of Ontario again, we see what has been done by colonisation, in from 100 years, down to as short a period as 35 years. Space will not admit detailed statement of the work being done, the style of farming, &c., according to the age of each district of the country; it is only right, perhaps, to speak of the best parts of the country as it is found to-day. The different state of things existing here and in the North-West provinces at the commencement of colonisation in each, is very remarkable, and should not be lost sight of. In Ontario it was all vast forest—immense cedar, hardwood, or pine forest—which had all to be cleared before an acre could be cultivated; and there is plenty yet left to be cleared, and to be cultivated. In Manitoba and the North-West there is no need for this long, tedious labour: it is all prairie, which takes the plough straight away; some people having started ploughing before building a

house. The work done in some parts of Ontario which were primeval forest 40 years ago only, is very wonderful. Now there is a railway to every part; bright-looking farms everywhere, with brick, stone, or wood houses; barns and buildings dotted about amongst bits of original belts of forest, or planted copse; roads and fences, the latter quite good enough, but which might be kept tidier in places. All this spells success, carved out of dense and dark forest by a generation of men now nearly passed away.

In the situation of the farm buildings, and the celebrated "Canadian barn" seen everywhere, the country is most happy. In England it is commonly noticed all the hauling has to be done up hill, and if there is water power available for chaff-cutting, grinding, &c., it is not utilised. Herein scarcity of labour has been a blessing for Canada, as farm buildings have been well placed, and especially the all-important barn. This universal sight throughout the country gives a pleasing, solid, fascinating look to the scene. Its construction—varied in size according to the acreage of holding—is generally of stone foundation and wood above. In order to make the erection cheap, anyone about to build prepares all the frame and heavy timber, then makes a requisition on his neighbours, who, by custom, all come to help him for a day with erection of sides and roof; and thus, each helping the other in turn, time and expense are saved. On good farms, the barn holds all the cattle and horses in winter in the basement, and—being built as often as possible on a hill-side—the one or two upper stories are entered by wagons on the level, and made to hold all the food for winter. Where the natural facilities do not exist, an inclined way is thrown up, of timber or soil, to allow of a waggon driving in. Water is also laid on, so that every provision is made for a whole winter. Of farming or market gardening close to the large towns much need not be said. In these spots under-draining is now completely carried out, and throughout the country a large amount is done.

There are three distinct divisions in Ontario farming—(1st) There is mixed farming, practised more or less all over the province; (2nd) fruit-farming in certain districts; and (3rd) Indian corn growing in others. Taking a district typical of the country, round Toronto and Guelph are fair mixed farms. From Guelph, round places called Breslau, Berlin, Hamburg, to Stratford, some very tidy farming is to be seen. Then a large dairying district extends round the neighbourhood of London, Exeter, Tavistock, Ingersoll, and Woodstock; also round Brockville and Belleville, to the east of Toronto. The particular fruit-growing districts may be said to be round Grimsby and Niagara, although there is more or less of it in several other parts. Some good stock farms are also to be found around Exeter and Seaforth. The Indian corn growing country, extending through the counties of Kent and Essex, in the extreme south-west of the province, is a very fine district—the only one of Canada in which the Indian corn ripens to perfection, and the grain of this eminently useful cereal is available for export. The soil is all a deep alluvium throughout these very flat counties, which have to be drained by dykes; and trees planted along these makes the appearance somewhat like Holland, without a hill to

be seen. Yet, as in Holland, this flat, chess-board-like country is very attractive. Indian corn is a wonderful crop, that takes little out of the land—that is, does not exhaust the soil to anything like the degree others do. It is supposed that, as it is grown in other parts of Ontario, where it only makes a green, but very valuable, fodder crop, the amount taken out of the land is quite inappreciable, although growing to 12 and 16 feet high. In these southern counties it serves the double purpose, the grain being taken off the stalk in October, and the stalk still coming in for food from December to end of March, which is the full extent of winter in this southern district. Rotation of crops here is varied considerably from general rule; wheat in small quantities, or oats, beans, or roots, following two or three successive crops of Indian corn sometimes. Opinion gains favour with some that this is the best farming district of Ontario, the growing season being the longest, and the winters shorter and milder. Considerable dairying is already done, and a fine fruit district lies along the shore of Lake Erie on the south border.

I found, generally speaking, that in the fruit-growing districts fields and fences were not kept so tidy as in other districts, in many cases tufts of grass being allowed to grow high round each tree stem; a look of unkemptness being about the whole farm. The more easily earned money fruit-growing brings appears to beget this state. Canada is undoubtedly the country for this industry. Three essential conditions exist for perfect apple-raising—late spring, hot summer, and short autumn, wherein the sap stops rising very soon after the fruit is ripe. Dryness of climate also favours apples: in that it is so dry, the fruit is benefitted by remaining on the ground several days to "sweat" before being packed for sending to market; and after putting into barrels, just as seen commonly in England, they are often left weeks lying about the orchards, until it suits to sell or carry to market. England is the great receiver for Canada's apples, and it is undoubtedly a paying produce. The best fruit farms, as in England, have the land planted wide apart, with apple, pear, peach, cherry, or plum, and cultivated in between with the plough, most of the usual crops being raised except wheat. Spade cultivation is said to be much too expensive, and hence the Worcestershire method of orchard planting, with alternate rows of large fruit (apple, pear, &c.), and small fruit trees (gooseberry, currant, &c.), cannot be resorted to, as it would be difficult to plough between small fruit bushes. There is an advantage in the Worcestershire method in England, which gives the trees more light and air; but in this very dry climate they are wonderfully healthy, and do not appear to suffer; and the gooseberry, for some reason, does not prosper. Wild raspberry, blackberry (American variety), huckleberry, blueberry, cranberry, &c., are all so common that they are hardly cultivated for profit. Summer pears are widely grown for domestic consumption, very large, fine fruits being quite cheap; but of course these soft fruits cannot be exported, except to the States, and growing is probably overdone. The varieties of fruit grown are so numerous that detailed description of each would be beyond the limits of this work, and already something has been said about grapes. These are, however, so im-



portant a branch of the industry, that a few more lines must be craved for them. They are, perhaps, not a safe staple industry for a man of very small means to rely upon, but grape-growing is like other adjuncts of the farm which "go to swell the total." Little care and attention seem to be bestowed on them here, compared with that given in other parts of the world: not much manure is used; nearly the entire crop is grown out of doors; and so dry and healthy is the atmosphere that blight is little known. The best districts are no doubt along the shores of Lake Erie and Lake Ontario.

Mixed farming, with dairying in all branches, is carried on in most parts of Ontario, and more particularly in the districts named above. The holdings are generally 100 acres in extent, with a good sprinkling of larger ones. Describing a 100-acre farm in good order: it will have a wood, brick, or stone house, placed near the road, so that there is little private road to run up expense in repairs; the barn will be close by, and generally one or two out-buildings, such as piggery and chicken-house; a clump of trees often seen round the whole, or an apple orchard on one side. Trees are now commonly planted along the line of the fences, four or five of which enclose the farm in a ring, many being still the old cedar snake-fence, made from the wood cut out of the original forest that covered the land; but where new fences have to be made, they are of wood posts and wire. The land is ploughed for the most part, wheat and oats being taken off some portions every year, with timothy and clover following; barley, or, in some parts, a little flax, Indian corn for green fodder, beets, white carrot, turnip, mangolds, potatoes, &c. Of permanent grass there is hardly any in the country, except in the orchards; and there it ought not to be, as it is better for the fruit to keep the ground moved. A strict rotation of cropping is not adhered to, but timothy generally is sown with winter wheat, and clover is broadcasted over it in spring; then, after the corn crop is off, it is fed in autumn, and cut for hay the following year; after which it is fed, and ploughed again the third year. This absence of permanent pasture is detrimental to the look of the country, and must be a distinct loss, as good old pasture cannot be had, as in England, and the want of it for grazing is no doubt felt.

The stock on a typical farm will be about 12 head of dairy cows (this should, of course, be increased), two or three head of grazing stock, calves, pigs, poultry, &c., a few sheep perhaps, a pair of horses, and a brood mare. Now, taking a larger farm—a typical one that I examined in the neighbourhood of London: 425 acres of really well-farmed land of heavy top soil for this country, with clay subsoil, nearly all under-drained. All this under plough, except 40 acres of pasture, on which a very large dairy of 115 cows is run from May to November, being, of course, "soil-fed"—i.e., receiving dry food as well—which is the common practice in the country. This dairy, composed of nearly all "Shorthorn grades," is kept up by drafts of home-bred heifers, 19 such being reared on cheese-factory whey this year. Milk is principally sent to a cheese factory close by, but also sold in the town; the wholesale price for it is 4 cents per quart (2d.), and retail 6 cents per quart (3d.).

The cows in this dairy are partly fed through the summer on sweet grains, fetched daily from a brewery, and it is asserted that this does not affect the quality of the cheese goods. With such a large dairy, of course numbers of pigs are kept; a very good herd of "Oxford," "Berkshire," and "Poland China" being seen. These are all fed on whey from the factory, and grains, and fatted off with pea-meal and oats.

The rotation for crops here is nearly a four-course one—wheat first, with timothy and clover sown through it for second year, which makes a hay crop; third year, roots, for which crop only, manure is used, at the rate of about 30 loads per acre; fourth year, oats or Indian corn; no fallow being allowed. The "Mammoth Sweet Southern," which is the largest variety of Indian corn, has reached an average height of 12 feet here, and produces a large quantity of green fodder per acre. There is a smaller variety, which with some farmers is the most popular, it being more succulent. The gentleman owning this farm does well in providing as many as six houses for workpeople, keeping 10 men on all the year round, and choosing tenants for his houses from those who have wives and families who can milk.

Another good farm of 200 acres was seen near Stratford. This may be described as one in course of improvement, having lately been bought by present owner. A new house and fine barn, &c., have already been built, and some very promising crops were on the land, which is nearly all under-drained. A field of "Canadian Velvet Chaff" winter wheat, already sown and up, looked in splendid order, even from an English point of view. Winter wheat is allowed to get very proud (English term), as the frost and snow keep it back sufficiently. Other crops seen were—Indian corn, clover root, mangolds, turnips, beets, and potatoes. The essential feature of this farm is home-bred and imported prize stock, of which a large number is kept very successfully, besides a fair-sized dairy of fine-looking cows. Here, as elsewhere, I found fault with the roughness of young grass pastures, as they appear to want nothing but frequent rolling, and bush-harrowing; but the excuse is that frost damages the surface so much, and the season is so short, time cannot be devoted to this work.

Cheese-making is, amongst manufactures, the largest in Canada, next to lumber; and as it is an industry due to the development of the country, it is more important than that of lumbering, which only accrues from its natural resources. I visited several cheese factories in Ontario, and found them to be admirable institutions in all parts, which must give satisfactory results to farmers. The industry has no doubt been established and fathered by Mr. Thomas Ballantyne, who started the first factory about 23 years ago at Black Creek, near Stratford, and now lives to see a large and thriving manufacture, having a ready sale on the English and other markets. Some factories are now run by private individuals; others are mutual co-operative concerns. All make upon the same formula, with a view to producing an article like English Cheddar; and although, of course, all do not succeed in making the same quality, most turn out a cheese selling at from 8 cents to 10 cents per lb. at the factory (4d. to 5d.). The essence of the success of these factories is that each of them draws its

milk from a large enough district, all the farmers within a radius of four miles from the centre at which the factory is situated supplying their produce. Good management is ensured by paying an efficient man from 60 cents to 70 cents per 100 lbs. of cheese made (2s. 6d. to 2s. 11d.), he finding all cloth and rennet required.

The general result of this system of management evidently gives good satisfaction, probably because the work is in the hands of one man, who is trusted by those supplying milk, and because a dividend is not paid upon the capital required to establish the factory, the farmers receiving the nett amount of money the cheese brings, which commonly averages  $7\frac{1}{2}$  cents to 8 cents ( $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 4d.) per gallon of milk they supply through the year. On the whole country I believe some receive more than this figure, and others less. It must be remembered, in considering the price obtained for milk, that in this country everyone lives on his own land, having no rent to pay, and therefore the price of 4d. per gallon of 10 lbs. weight should be considered very good. Contrasting it with that obtained throughout England, it is probably only 1d. less. Is not this a satisfactory result in a country only perhaps 50 years settled (many districts have only been cleared 35 or 40 years), and where the trade has only been started since 1867 by various settlers, many of whom were no farmers, but tradesmen, before coming here? In addition, there is the value arising from pig-feeding, which at most factories are bought in and fattened off in batches throughout the season. This adds something to the return per gallon of milk; but the result from this adjunct being a variable one, it is not reliable to put this into figures. The routine at all factories is much the same: one man, a milk supplier or otherwise, agrees to pick up the milk of so many farms each morning along his line of road, charging about half a cent per gallon of 10 lbs. The milk is weighed as taken in at the factory, and run along shoots into the various tubs, which are always the oblong shape here. Night's milk is mixed with the morning's when delivered; no collection being made on Sunday mornings. The curd is precipitated as soon as possible in the tubs, the milk being stirred by power-driven paddles, reducing hand labour as much as possible. It is put away the same evening, pressed, and handed on to the cheese-curing room, which is always in another building. The ripening under the particular formula adopted is accomplished in six, eight, or ten weeks, when the cheese is turned over to the merchant.

All factory buildings in the country are still of wood, even the floors, which, notwithstanding, I found scrupulously clean. Much expense is thus saved as compared with factory buildings in England; but climatic conditions are not equal. The appearance of the cheese in the curing-rooms visited was certainly excellent, perfect regularity in size, pressing, and shape being now attained; thus affording a large bulk of even-looking sample, which is so important an item for making a good market. The quality throughout the make at each factory visited was also very even, showing good care and judgment. The cheese season extends to about seven months, the rest of the milking period being taken up with a bit of butter-making by the farmers at home.

An expression here upon the present position of the Canadian cheese market may not be out of place. My visits to the various factories left little doubt that all Canadian cheese is perfectly pure and unadulterated, and a large bulk is no doubt of a superior eating quality, which, if placed upon the retail market solely as "Canadian," would no doubt realise a better price still. An example of such a policy is now to be seen in England, where the "Danish Butter Co." has succeeded in making such a good market for their particular commodity. The feeding of cows supplying milk to the factories receives careful attention on the part of factory managers. As noticed elsewhere, there is little old, permanent pasture in the country; therefore herds are partly what is called "soil-fed;" consequently, certain tastes arising from the food have to be watched for, and it is to the credit of the farmers that they act upon letters of caution issued to them. Also, that very important point of giving cows daily access to salt and clean water is habitually observed; the water being all obtained from pumps, and not from ditches, there being very few of the latter in the country.

Of butter factories, or creameries, there are a fair number distributed over the province, but of butter-making little in praise can be said. The old theory that the addition of a large quantity of salt makes butter keep is still adhered to; whereas it is now well established that if sufficient care is taken in drying by machinery and hand, without damaging the grain, it keeps just as long, and retains a fine flavour, consequently a higher value. The custom at present at factories is to make in the summer and sell in the fall, to secure a higher price, the dryness of the climate no doubt favouring the procedure; but this fact should all the more induce the making of fine *fresh* butter, especially in a country where ice is so cheap and cold stores easily arranged for. In those creameries visited I did not observe any good modern machinery, the butter-workers being particularly antiquated. From what could be gleaned of butter-making and its prospects, especially in the south-west corner of Ontario, there are good opportunities for success and development. The breed of cows in the country is of no mean quality, those commonly met with being various grades of Shorthorn; the best milkers now being native animals, crossed with imported stock of that breed. Other breeds are Holstein, Ayrshire, and Polled Angus, but these cannot be such good milkers. A good many well-bred Jerseys are kept, some in herds, others scattered in twos and threes amongst the dairies, standing the climate quite well. The variety and quality of food now raised in this province is little short of that in England; besides which, Indian corn stalk, or straw, makes such a sweet, succulent, and abundant fodder. The hay raised is much coarser in appearance than we are accustomed to at home, but is evidently very succulent. The quality of milk produced, taken from various tests obtained all over the Province of Ontario, makes it appear to contain 3.75 per cent. of butter fat.

The adequate provision of schools, placed near enough together in country districts, and providing efficient teaching, is one of the all-important items in the consideration of a country. Throughout the Dominion of Canada the system is practically the same, each province

having the management within its own boundaries. Education is entirely free, unsectarian, and common to the whole community, being maintained by Government grants and local taxes. In Manitoba and the North-West necessary funds are provided by the reservation of sections of land, known as "school sections," throughout every township (six square miles constituting a township), as well as by a tax upon all other lands, whether cultivated or not, but this amounts to a sum so small that it is no hardship on anyone. School-houses are placed so that no pupils have to walk more than two miles. There are high schools provided in towns for those who prefer them, but these are not entirely free. After the age of 13 school attendance is voluntary, and up to now it has not been the custom to enforce attendance under that age, reliance upon the good sense of parents and the honour of pupils being sufficient. In towns the children can be looked up by the masters and mistresses, and the average attendance is apparently about 90 per cent. of those on the roll; but in farming districts this is not kept up, owing to the great temptation to keep children at home in harvest and seed-time, &c., and in a country where labour is so dear this tendency is the harder to withstand. To obviate this, a measure is likely to be adopted appointing school attendance inspectors. In a country where there is little or no want one was glad to see school pupils very clean, tidy, and well dressed, which appeared general through all the provinces.

The following points stood out conspicuously, as compared with English board schools:—The sexes are more mixed, and this enforces better behaviour on the pupils through respect for themselves, thus lightening vastly the duties of teachers; and further, neither masters nor pupils are allowed to address each other in a tone above that of ordinary conversation, even in as large a class as 35 pupils, which appears to work admirable results in two ways—good behaviour, and strict attention on the part of pupils, as otherwise what is going on in class would be entirely missed. The system known as "payment by results" has long been given up as most pernicious. Pupils are examined constantly by masters of other classes, and by inspectors at the term end, when they have to pass their respective standards, of which there are eight; and general opinion holds that the pupils and the country are more benefitted by this means. Teachers are not tempted to cram themselves or pupils; favouring advanced children is discouraged; and to all appearance teachers work to keep their class evenly advancing, encouraging pupils to think before giving answers as *viva voce*. A feature in all the schools is the orderly way of filling and clearing the class-rooms in marching order, boys and girls being filed off with great precision. This is admirable training in discipline, and a preventive of panic in case of fire.

Making my return journey through Nova Scotia, I had little time to examine the state of agriculture, but ascertained from authentic sources that the Annapolis Valley, whence so large an apple supply comes, is a very fine, but limited district—the whole province not being anything like so large as most of the other provinces of the Dominion. The chief occupations here are lumbering and mining, and essentially mixed farming in the cleared districts. Government lands, at a nominal price, are

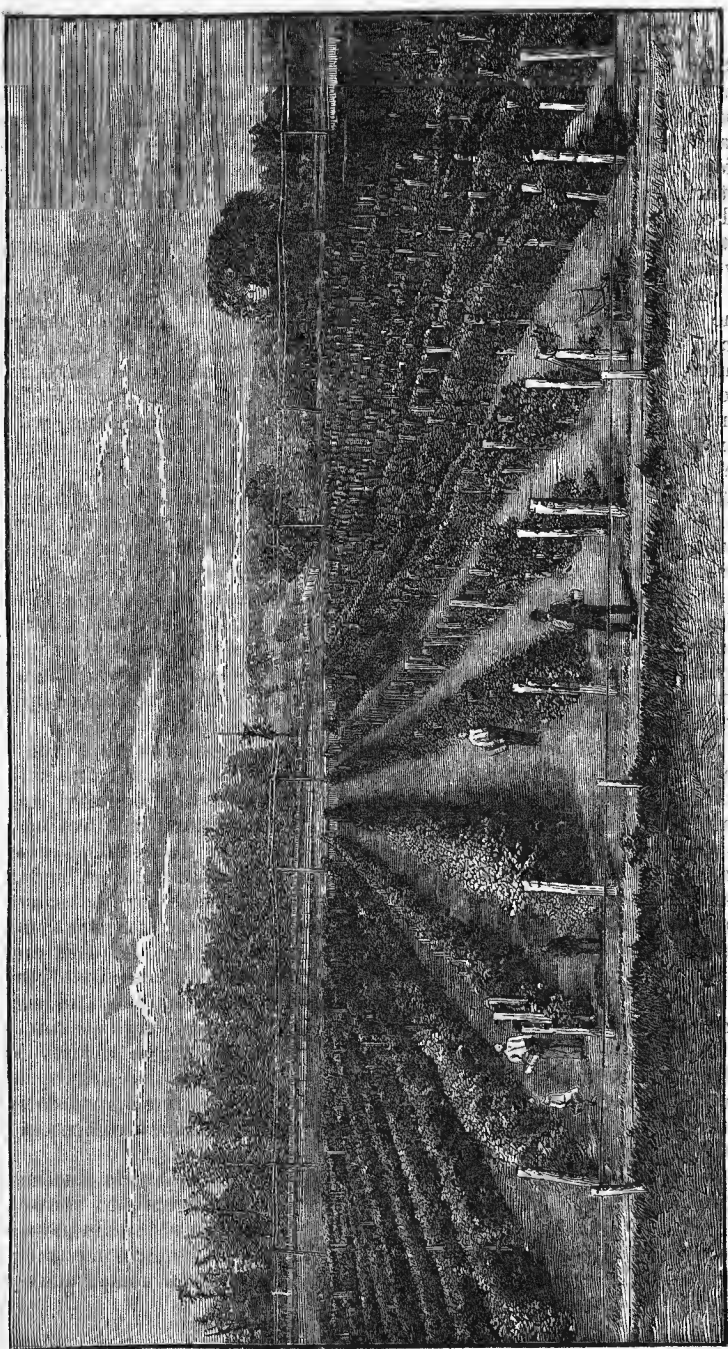
still to be had, on timber-covered land, but of course the prairies offer better opportunities to the European settler. Farms are to be bought here from \$10 per acre and upwards, according to position, number of acres cleared, and quality of buildings erected; and upon the same terms as before mentioned. There appear to be many essential conditions for agriculture and industries. Peaches, and fruit generally, grow luxuriously and of excellent quality; cheese-making is firmly established at many factories spread over the province; and other industries may soon develop and go hand in hand ahead with the all-important farming.

The geographical position of this and the other so-called "Maritime Provinces"—which are New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island—could not be better for the large markets of England and the United States, being mostly surrounded by water and good harbours. The progress here of late years has, however, not been rapid. The scenery of the country is enticing, being hilly and undulating, with plenty of timber; large, fine rivers watering most districts, and making the appearance of the country more like England than many other parts of Canada. There is at the present time a tendency on the part of middle-aged farmers here, who have brought up families on their farms, and seen them out in the world, to sell their farms at very reasonable rates in order to retire, or go to the newer provinces of the North-West with their families, and hence there should be a good living for those with families going from Britain who have a little money, and can buy to advantage a farm already in cultivation in a populated neighbourhood, where the reasonable comforts of life are more readily obtained than in newer districts. These remarks apply with equal force to Ontario.

If that part of Canada called the North-West is, so to speak, a good "settling ground" for farm or other labourers, or for those with little ready money to start with, the older, more thickly populated, and more socially advanced parts in Ontario and the Maritime Provinces are just the places for young, well-educated farmers possessed of some means. Do not, though, let anyone make a grievous mistake by buying a farm for seven or eight hundred pounds as soon as he arrives because it appears cheap; he will never regret a year's work on someone else's farm, and then, when he is comfortably settled on a well-chosen and much-thought-over place of his own, he will look back on that year of work, with good wages, with pride for the rest of his life, and may be able at middle age to hand on the farm with complacency to a son.

For those dairymen, or dairy-farmers, as the term applies in different parts of Britain, there appears to be abundant opportunity in Canada. Hard-working people such as these, placed near a good dairy factory in a favourable part of the country, should attain a competence in a few years.

Whilst carrying away many pleasant memories of Canada obtained during an extended but still all too short a visit, I wish to convey, through the best agency possible, my high appreciation of the kindnesses received at the hands of many friends met with, who gave me much information without which the trip would have been comparatively futile.



AN ONTARIO VINEYARD AT EAST HAMILTON.

## THE REPORT OF MR. HENRY SIMMONS,

Bearwood Farm, Wokingham.

HAVING accepted the appointment under Sir Charles Tupper as one of the English delegates to visit and report on the Dominion of Canada, I left Liverpool on the 4th of September, on board the Allan Line steamship "Sardinian," for Quebec.

In the course of my remarks I shall have to try and remove from the minds of intending emigrants some very commonly entertained prejudices. Let me then first start with my experience of the sea voyage.

To cross the Atlantic does, I know, appear to many a terrible undertaking, but I can truthfully say the time spent by me on the ocean, both on the outward and homeward passage, was most enjoyable. I am an excellent sailor, which, of course, added materially to my pleasure, but I noticed—although on both journeys we had a fair experience of our ship rolling and pitching—the passengers who were ill gained their usual health and spirits after the second day, and entered heartily into any amusement going on. With an excellent bill of fare served at 8.30 a.m., 1, and 6 p.m., and supper or tea from 9 to 10 p.m. to any one requiring it, it left nothing to be desired as regards our creature comforts. Then by the aid of shuffle-board, deck quoits, speculation on the ship's log, auction sale of tickets daily, tug of war, music, dancing, concerts both in the first saloon and also by invitation from and to the intermediate and steerage passengers, card parties, the use of a small library, and much pleasant interchange of ideas one with another, the day sped on, and we found ourselves ready to turn into our comfortable cabins for the night when the lights were put out at eleven o'clock. Sunday is strictly observed on board, service being held in the morning, and in the evening we joined the steerage passengers singing hymns, &c. These remarks hold good as regards the intermediate and steerage passengers, according to their degree, as equal care is taken for their enjoyment and comfort. On the outward passage we landed at Moville, while our ship lay to in that beautiful bay awaiting the arrival of the mails, and drove some few miles along the coast, visiting the old Green Tower and other points of interest. But the most interesting part of the voyage was on getting after five or six days out amongst the icebergs. I had heard and read of icebergs, but had no conception that so many and such vast islands of snow-covered ice could be seen floating away towards the south. Some presented an appearance of one solid block, covering an area of many acres in extent, others of more fantastic shapes, arched and beautiful, and on being told that, high as many of them towered above the water, only about one-fourth of their size was visible, it seemed beyond belief. Our captain was not so enthusiastic, and was heartily glad to be out of their region before nightfall. So we journeyed on, sighting Belle Isle, then some two or three days up the Gulf of and the River St. Lawrence,

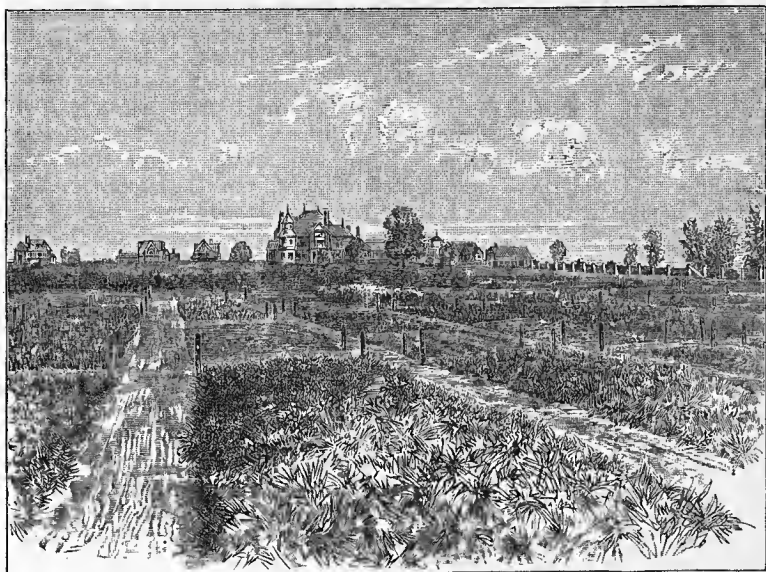


landing some of our passengers and mails at Rimouski, till we arrived at Quebec on the morning of Sunday, the 14th September. Before leaving this subject of the ocean passage, I may say that one gentleman told me it was his sixty-fifth voyage, and he had never known anything more serious than a boat or two blown away; and a steward on the ship said it was his 150th voyage, and he had never experienced any disaster at sea beyond an occasional rough passage in the winter months. It is said to be proved by statistics that one is safer from accident of all kinds on board a well-appointed steamship than by his own fireside at home, and it may be worthy of remark in passing that no casualty of any kind happened to any one of our party during our long journey of some 17,000 miles, but that within one week after my return, the only uncle I had living was burnt to death in his own house.

Three other delegates having journeyed with me in the ship, we now started together. Our instructions being to present ourselves as quickly as possible to the Hon. Mr. Carling, the Minister of Agriculture at Ottawa, we made a stay of a few hours only at Quebec; Mr. Stafford, the Government agent, driving us about eight miles round the country, passing through the Indian village of Lorette. The land appeared of good quality, but wet and undrained (we had had a good deal of rain), held in small allotments by peasant proprietors, and the crops of oats, potatoes, and roots were poor, and the land not so well farmed as it might be according to our ideas. The people appeared very orderly and well dressed, it being Sunday; but as regards farming, without much push and enterprise. Of course, we saw but little of the country, and should therefore, perhaps, withhold an opinion. The view of the town from the Citadel is very imposing.

We left by train for Montreal, reaching there at seven o'clock, remaining the night at the Windsor Hotel—said to be one of the best hotels in Canada or the States. In the early morning we drove round Montreal, getting a grand view of the city (the largest and grandest in Canada) from Mount Royal, a most imposing sight, with the St. Lawrence River, Victoria Bridge, and Rapids in the distance. We left for Ottawa after breakfast, reaching the capital about one o'clock. The railway passes through a poor agricultural district, and the crops struck us as if they would have repaid more careful farming. On reaching Ottawa, the seat of the Dominion Government, and containing the Houses of Parliament and departmental buildings, (which are very fine structures), and the centre of the Ontario lumber trade, we presented ourselves to the Hon. Mr. Carling, and arranged to journey with him by the night train to Toronto. In the meantime we had conveyances and drove out to see the central Government Experimental Farm, about two miles from the city, the leading one of five established—here, and in the Maritime Provinces, Manitoba, the North-West Territories, and British Columbia. We were most courteously received by Professor Saunders, the managing director, and conducted over the whole establishment. This farm, comprising 450 acres of mixed soils, was only started in the spring of 1887, its chief object being to carry out many useful experiments in all kinds of farmwork about which

reliable and positive information is most needed; including the best kinds of seed corn, both as regards yield, quality, and what is of the utmost importance, early maturity, to meet the drawback of the shortness of the season and autumn frost; the growing and testing



EXPERIMENTAL FARM, OTTAWA.

of all kinds of grasses and fodder plants, with a view to determine which kinds will answer best in the respective soils and varying climate of the Dominion. This is a subject of much difficulty, as, owing to the severe winter, many of our finest grasses fail, and timothy grass seems the one great favourite at present; we saw, however, many of the finer grasses doing well in the various plots, and rye grass, lucerne, and sainfoin looked promising. The latter would be a most useful plant in the country if once acclimatised. Indian corn was being made into ensilage, producing 20 tons per acre. It was in an advanced stage of ripeness and corned, and when passed through the chaff-cutter and pressed into the silo, formed an excellent fodder for winter consumption. We also examined some good samples of wheat, barley, and oats, just thrashed out. The mangels, swedes, and various kinds of common turnips were all good. Grapes of many kinds, said to comprise 150 different varieties, were growing in the open field, many of them fine fruit; but owing to the backward season and want of sun, scarcely ripe, although we ate many.

The Canadian grapes have a peculiar flavour, rather thick skin, and glutinous inside; but the taste once acquired, you become very fond of them, and one commendable feature throughout Canada is, that the

first thing placed before you on the breakfast table is a dish of grapes and other fruits, and again after dinner. Many acres are planted with fruit trees, and a large belt of forest and ornamental trees and shrubs, obtained from all countries and climes, have been planted around the farm boundaries, serving the double purpose of shelter from cold winds, and also that of testing their growth and adaptation to the different provinces of the Dominion. The houses for the respective managers are excellent, also the buildings generally. The actual farm buildings are the most spacious, conveniently planned, and economically built erections of the kind I have seen in any country. The stock consisted of 12 good working horses and five distinct herds of cattle, of about ten animals in each herd—namely, Shorthorns, Polled Angus, Holstein, Ayrshire, and Alderney—all selected chiefly from the Dominion, at a very moderate outlay, and, as I considered, with good judgment, many very good specimens of the breeds mentioned being secured. All the milk and butter produced is sold in Ottawa. Sheep and pigs are to be added; but, at present, the arrangements in these departments are incomplete. The poultry yard is in itself a great institution, embracing all the best known breeds, and thoroughly understood and cared for by the very intelligent manager of that department. One very commendable practice is that of sending out to hundreds of farmers throughout the Dominion small samples of different grain for them to sow and test for themselves, also the receiving of any samples sent in by farmers for analysis or opinion thereon. Altogether, the whole management and arrangement, not forgetting the chemical department, struck us as good, and well calculated to disseminate most useful and valuable knowledge throughout the Dominion, at a comparatively small cost to the Government.

We left Ottawa by the night mail for Toronto, reaching there early next morning. Having taken up our quarters at the Queen's Hotel, we at once started for the great Toronto Show and Fair then being held about two miles by rail out of the city, returning at night by one of the boats continually running down Lake Ontario to and from the show. Toronto is the seat of the Provincial Government, with a population of over 200,000 inhabitants, and with its important manufactories and fine buildings is a city of which any country might be proud. The agricultural shows here differ from those in England, as they combine pleasure with business; in fact, on seeing it included a Buffalo Bill entertainment in all its entirety—swings, roundabouts, &c., &c., and stalls of all kinds—it reminded one of our old English fairs; at the same time, the show of stock, fruit, roots, and cereals, and more particularly agricultural implements, was hardly second to anything to be seen at our leading English exhibitions. This plan evidently pleases the masses, as the show lasts nearly a fortnight, and is crowded by visitors daily, consequently the gate money must be very large. One very noticeable feature is the absence notwithstanding the crowd of all noise or drunkenness, no intoxicating liquor being allowed to be sold inside the showyard, but every convenience is afforded for refreshments of all kinds and non-intoxicating drinks. Throughout Canada, tea and coffee are served with every meal, which, no

doubt, accounts in a great measure for the general sobriety of the people.

The show is held in permanent buildings erected for the purpose, and they are extensive and very convenient, and the open ground affords abundant room for the pleasure-seekers, horse, cattle, trotting, and other rings necessary for showing the exhibits. The cattle included Shorthorns, Polled Angus, and other breeds that would have been no disgrace to an English "Royal" showyard; and the horses included some very useful Shire and good Clydesdale specimens. The trotting horse is everything in Canada. These showed in great force, and the pace is good, also high jumping—the champion jumper cleared a rail fence 7 ft. 1 in. high. The show of implements was better, and certainly more extensive, than any I have seen in England; every convenience is brought out to reduce labour, and all made light and fairly cheap. The fruit of all kinds was most extensive and of good quality, more particularly grapes, pears, apples, and plums, also a fine assortment of roses and other flowers. Roots, cereals, and grasses of all kinds equal to those grown in England were to be seen in great abundance; the different provinces and Government experimental farms vying with each other to excel—altogether forming a vast and most interesting exhibition. Dogs are numerous and fine in Canada, and a very good show of these animals was included. We spent two days doing the round of the show, and could well have extended our stay, as we met many farmers and others, from whom we obtained useful information; but not to waste time it was arranged for the delegates, who had now all arrived at Toronto, to start on the evening of the second day for Winnipeg, from which point we hoped to start on our actual North-West tour. Accordingly, we all left on Wednesday evening, in a most comfortable saloon and Pullman sleeping car provided for our special use by the Grand Trunk and Canadian Pacific Railway Companies, on the rather long and tedious journey by Port Arthur to Winnipeg, a distance of some 1,200 miles, reaching Winnipeg on Saturday evening about five o'clock. This journey for the most part was through a picturesque country of forests and lakes, but entirely out of court for any purposes of agriculture. Minerals are now being worked on some parts of the line, and should more be found, as in all probability will be the case, a scattered population may spring up; but at present the long ride through apparently deserted forests, all more or less destroyed from time to time by fire, without seeing so much as a bird of any kind, makes one glad when, as you near Winnipeg, passing Rat Portage, and one or two other apparently more thriving and pretty places, you begin to feel once more in the civilised world.

It was on this journey, as we wound our way round the margin of Lake Superior, at a spot rather ominously called the "Jaws of Death," that the accident occurred to our engine and tender, from running into a large mass of stone that had fallen on to the track from the heights above. It fortunately resulted in nothing more serious than giving us all a good shaking as we sat at breakfast, and sending the engine and two other trucks off the line; the line itself being also torn up, causing a

delay of some hours before a start could be again made. Had the accident happened a few yards farther on, the whole train might have gone down a precipice; in that case I am afraid the delegates' mission would have come to an abrupt conclusion. However, "All's well that ends well." On long night and day journeys by train, breakfast, luncheon, and dinner cars are attached at different stations to the trains, and run on till all the passengers are served, then leave at the next station.

On reaching Winnipeg we were very cordially received by the Members of Parliament and citizens generally, and took up our quarters, to remain over Sunday, at the Clarendon Hotel. Winnipeg is a flourishing city of some 27,000 inhabitants, and favoured by its situation, as regards railway and water communication, must go on increasing, although just now suffering from over-speculation at the time the Canadian Pacific Railway was first opened. It contains many very fine public buildings, churches, schools, and private houses; at the same time many wooden houses are to be seen, giving at first sight a somewhat mixed impression, but this feeling leaves you as you become better acquainted with the capabilities of the place and its people. We were made honorary members for the time being of the Manitoba Club, a most enjoyable and well-conducted establishment, and invited on Monday evening to take part in a dinner given to Sir Hector Langevin, the Minister of Public Works of Canada. The health of the delegates was proposed, and we had to return thanks in due course. About 250 dined, and altogether a very jolly evening was spent. We drove out on Sunday afternoon, after attending church, some six miles, crossing the Red River by the ferry, returning on the other side, and crossing by the suspension bridge, which serves alike for railway and passenger traffic. The roads were very bad, owing to the late rains; and the land, although very rich in quality, was very badly farmed, according to the standard of British cultivation. Much of the land round Winnipeg is open prairie, in the hands of speculators, and not being fenced can be fed and used by any one. A large quantity of good land in the Selkirk district, some 18 miles distant, is open to emigrants.

On Monday morning we went over several large warehouses, inspected the provision market, called on and had audience with the governor of the province of Manitoba, and afterwards visited the schools. The schools are entirely free, and open to and used alike by all classes of society. The teachers both male and female appeared very efficient. The Government do not pay, as in England, by results, but 75, 70, or 60 per cent. of their salary, according to the class of certificate the teachers hold. A good system of drill, to call in or dismiss the various classes, or should an outbreak of fire occur, is practised by the children. The school buildings are good, and the sanitary and ventilation arrangements excellent. Winnipeg contains in all ten schools, 500 children and upwards attending each. The children we saw had a particularly intelligent and strong, healthy appearance, very clean in person, and well dressed. These remarks apply generally throughout the whole Dominion, the school system wherever you go

being all good alike, and churches and chapels in every district. No one contemplating emigration need have any misgivings on either of these matters, as they will find the arrangements good and in their own hands. In the afternoon we drove out in an opposite direction to that taken on Sunday, to "Silver Heights," about six miles, a very nice residence and farm belonging to Sir Donald Smith, and were received by the steward, Sir Donald being away. They had about 300 acres of arable land, and planted 240 acres of it with wheat each year. He was satisfied with a yield of 20 bushels per acre; dung was of no use, he had tried it several times, but should do so no more, as it only produced weeds. The same statement has been often made to us since in other districts, and it certainly has puzzled the delegates a good deal when, finding fault with the farmers for burning the straw, as is so much done throughout Manitoba, we were met with this answer, and have not been able to convince them against the practice; as, however, mixed farming becomes more general, this will no doubt be discontinued. We have been told men will remove a building rather than clean out the dung, and in one instance we saw this actually done. A small herd of West Highland cattle and a few Herefords, all running together without much attempt at management, making in all, including calves, about 40 head, comprised the stock on the farm, except horses and a few sheep shut in a yard. The steward said he had only 90 acres of poor-looking prairie pasture, and it was not nearly enough to carry the above herd; he wanted nearly ten acres to a beast to do well. A small herd of seven wild buffaloes are kept in an enclosed ground as a relic of the past.

On our return journey to Winnipeg, we passed some good land used for garden purposes, well cultivated, and very productive. We walked into gardens and talked with the occupiers, who evidently used dung when they could get it, and highly valued it, the result being fine vegetables and potatoes of good quality and quantity. Some very nice private residences on the banks of the Assiniboine River attracted our notice in the distance. The manager of the Manitoba Penitentiary, an Englishman who accompanied Lord Wolseley to Fort Garry in 1870, told me he had held the appointment 20 years, and during that time had only known five convicts convicted a second time after leaving the prison. On leaving, he was allowed to give them a suit of clothes and £2 in money, and generally heard of their doing well by letters from the convicts themselves. He told me that, although he hoped to retire in a few years, he should end his days in Canada, as he loved the country and people. On Tuesday morning we took leave of Winnipeg, accompanied by Mr. Scarth, the Member for Winnipeg, and journeyed on through a large tract of useful open prairie land, much of it broken up and appearing to have good crops of wheat, which all were busy stacking and threshing, and we saw several lots of cattle in the distance as we passed. Our first stop was at Carman, quite a new settlement, in consequence of a branch line being made to it from the junction, the old town of Carman being a short distance away. Already an inn, several stores of various kinds, and an elevator to receive the corn which was being

sent in constantly by the neighbouring farmers, are built, and the place looks thriving. A man had just shot a large white crane, rather larger than our common heron, hundreds of which he said infested the corn-fields during harvest time. They are good eating. After a stay of 40 minutes, we resumed our journey back to the junction, and so on to Glenboro', passing through a useful prairie country with some good corn at intervals, and plenty of wood and water—a great consideration to settlers. At the various stations on our road, bearing of our coming, the farmers brought specimens of grain, roots, &c., for our inspection, and one enthusiastic man brought a Shorthorn calf of his own breeding, said to be only eight months old, and weighing 940 lbs. live weight. It was really a very well bred calf, of good shape, colour, and quality. We remained at Glenboro' for the night, making an early start next morning in conveyances, dividing up our party, some going to the crofters by Pelican Lake, some to the Icelandic settlement, and one to the French settlement, all to return to Glenboro' at night. I joined the crofter party, and we found ourselves passing through the best country for settlement we had yet seen, most of it for some miles out taken up and well farmed, although some, as usual, being held by speculators, was unbroken. The first settlers only started here eight years back, and many of them only two years; all have built themselves fairly good houses and stables, and those who came first have broken all their land up, excepting that required for pasture for their cattle.

Our first stop was among some crofters, formerly fishermen. This was only their first harvest, and we found them busy stacking wheat. As the crofter question will be dealt with specially by our Scotch delegates, I will not dwell on this subject, merely saying we found them fairly well satisfied with the country and climate, not minding the long winter. All had made a good start breaking up their ground, having from 20 to 30 acres in wheat this season, and as much and in some cases more ready for next year's cropping. They have each a team, some two, of working oxen, 10 to 20 head of cattle, pigs, and poultry; and looked well and fit for work, including the wives and children. My own opinion is, considering their former habits and occupation from childhood as fishermen, they are making a fair start, and will in time become masters of their work, and get a fairly good position in the country. We heard from them the same story told us so often since, that the first year is a most trying one, especially to the wives, but that after that is past you become accustomed to the life and Canadian in your ideas, and have no wish to return to the old home. It was pleasing to hear the crofters speak with gratitude of the great attention, kindness, and encouragement they had one and all received from Mr. and Mrs. Scarth, of Winnipeg, who had both visited them in their homes several times. Mr. Scarth undertook on behalf of the Government to carry out the arrangements made for settling these crofters, I believe. We passed on through a very useful, open country by Barnett Lake, and so on to Pelican Lake, getting a fine view of the beautiful scenery all round as far as the eye could reach, and had a long talk with a young farmer busy stacking wheat. His former occupation was in a Liverpool merchant's office. He is married, and his two

sisters, who came out to Canada with him, have both since married well to neighbouring settlers. A young man, an English clergyman's son, was helping him on the stack. All appeared happy and contented, enjoyed the freedom of the life, and, as they put it, being their own "boss."

We again started over the prairie, occasionally calling on a settler as we passed, and driving through some good hay country down to Belmont, a station on the Canadian Pacific Railway. Here we halted for tea, and then on by moonlight over the prairie, watering our horses on the way at an Icelanders' settlement (these are said to make some of the very best settlers, being thrifty and industrious), and so back, after a run of over 50 miles, to Glenboro'. Some of our party carried guns, and bagged prairie chicken, ducks, and teal during the day's ride, all of which are very plentiful in this district. The following morning we left Glenboro' in four rigs, or spring waggons of the country, our destinations being Plum Creek, and thence by rail to Brandon. The land for some miles was very rich, well farmed, and caused many of us to wish we had a thousand acres of such soil in England. The first man we spoke to was very busy, like the rest, stacking wheat, but quite ready to tell us his experiences. He was formerly a gamekeeper in Lincolnshire; he farmed 160 acres—120 acres in wheat and 20 acres in oats this year, and expected most of the wheat to yield 40 bushels per acre, and, judging from what we saw of it, half will yield it, and the other half over 30 bushels. It was quite refreshing to see the way this man's work was set out and done; he was evidently doing, as he said, well; had bought another quarter-section of land, built a good house and premises, and, with the assistance of his sons and daughters, who all work, will make money. He liked both country and climate, and had lost asthma, from which he suffered a good deal when in England. Another young man near was farming a half-section (320 acres), with a very nice house and buildings on it; he paid for the land, which had been broken up, eight dollars an acre, and was every year paying for more live and dead stock out of his crops, which were, like his neighbour's, fairly good. We then continued our way through good land, all well farmed and in large holdings; here we saw a flock of about 200 South-down ewes and lambs, which the owner said paid him well, although he had to yard them by night from wolves. We halted at a new railway station and very thriving village on the River Souris called Wawanesa; very pretty scenery, and the station and village all built within the last year.

On resuming our journey we crossed the river, and passed through a long stretch of prairie, not of such good quality as that we had left, and mostly unbroken, held by speculators. Badgers and gophers (little animals between our rat and squirrel) abound, the badgers making holes in the trail very dangerous for the horses' legs; but it is curious to notice how very carefully these enduring little country horses avoid stepping into them. Evening found us at Plum Creek, after a drive of 56 miles. We calculated that during our drive, looking some two miles in each direction, we had seen something like 3,000,000 bushels



of wheat in stack. We noticed a severe hailstorm had crossed one district early in the season, and the wheat injured by it was just being cut very short and green, and not of much value. It is a rare occurrence in Canada, and no such thing as a hail insurance office exists. Plum Creek is a very pretty place on the Souris River, and a large quantity of good land is available for corn-growing; but here the speculators have been largely at work, and much of the land is in their hands, for which they now ask from eight to ten dollars an acre. We left by train, arriving at Brandon for the night. Friday morning we went, accompanied by Mr. Daly, M.P., and many of the leading men in Brandon, to visit a large farm occupied by a Mr. Sandison, from Scotland, whose land was some of the richest and his management of it, from a mere corn-raising point of view, the most business-like we have seen in Canada. From his own statement, verified by others, about seven years ago he began this farm with borrowed capital. He is to-day undoubtedly a man of very considerable means, say from seven to ten thousand pounds. The system is one of continuous cropping, and this year, after six previous corn crops, he complains he grows too much straw, all of which he burns out of his way immediately after harvest. He has 1,550 acres of Fife wheat (the most favourite wheat produced in Canada), which he expects will yield from 35 to 40 bushels, of 60 lbs. the bushel, per acre; and from the way it came down the spouts of two threshing machines then at work in the fields, being at the rate of three bushels every minute each machine, and the appearance of the crop, all being then in shock, it will probably, at any rate, reach the 35 bushels per acre, and most of it of good quality, and no complaint of damage by frost. Of oats he has 550 acres, all after six years' previous corn crops, and he estimates the yield at from eight to ten quarters, of 34 lbs. the bushel, per acre. The black Tartars are really a very fine crop. He took an adjoining section of 640 acres last year for three years, at a rental of half a dollar per acre per annum. It is all ready for planting with wheat next season, well cleared, and will only require breaking down with the harrows in the spring of 1891 to produce, after drilling, a fine crop of wheat. The only stock on the farm is 18 pairs of horses, working sulky ploughs on which the ploughmen ride; and we noticed twelve binders standing in the homestead awaiting winter quarters. Wild geese, ducks, and other game are plentiful on the farm, and produce good sport.

On our homeward journey we called at the Brandon Experimental Farm, where luncheon was provided for our party. The same system is carried out here as at Ottawa, and the buildings and management are on the same commendable principle, and under good painstaking managers.

In the afternoon we drove over the country on the east side of Brandon, calling on our way through the city to see a stud of Shire and thoroughbred horses, imported from England. We thought them only second rate, and fear the English sellers take quite enough money, without, at the same time, taking care that the article sold is good. We had a drive of some ten miles out, taking a circle home again through a great country of land available for emigrants, and a good

deal of it already taken up, at from five to twelve dollars an acre. This country is said to be subject to drought, but as a whole we think it well worthy the attention of intending settlers. A considerable quantity of land for many miles beyond Brandon is available and of good quality, and when in Ontario I heard of several old settlers there having chosen this part of the country for sending their sons into. We saw prairie chicken and ducks in abundance, and heard of wolves and a few bears in the neighbourhood. A supper and smoking concert was given in our honour, to which we were invited in the evening.

On Saturday morning, after seeing the very complete mills owned by the mayor of the city, sawmills, corn elevator, &c., we started in five rigs for Rapid City, distant about 21 miles. The first part of our way led us again by Mr. Sandison's farm, and through for some six or seven miles a very fine farming district. The country was literally covered with wheat and other corn stacks as far as the eye could reach, but as we approached Rapid City the country was more wooded and of inferior quality, but much of it was taken up and settled, and some very good houses built. Rapid City hardly carries out its name, as it appears to have stood still in the race of late, owing to the main line of railway not having passed through it as was expected; however, with the increased railway communication it has recently acquired, it is thought more attention will be directed to that district. We looked over a woollen manufactory, and gathered that a considerable quantity of sheep are kept in the neighbourhood, and we noticed some herds of cattle on the hills around. Complaints of frosted wheat were made, but the yield was said to be about 25 bushels per acre and fairly satisfactory.

We took the train for Minnedosa, where I left our party in order to spend two or three days with a gentleman formerly a pupil of mine at Bearwood, England, the rest of our delegates going on meanwhile to Saltcoats to see the crofters, then to Russell, over Dr. Barnardo's home and farm for boys, afterwards to Binscarth, over some cattle ranches, and on to Bartle—all of which, no doubt, will be fully described in their respective reports—and on the following Wednesday morning we all again met at Minnedosa. On reaching Minnedosa on Saturday evening, I at once engaged a rig to drive me out to Clanwilliam, to my friend's house, about 10 miles distant. I arrived there—after an interesting drive, the latter part being through a rather wooded country, and seeing a skunk, wolf, &c., cross our trail—about nine o'clock at night, and found my friend still busy finishing a wheat stack, the letter I had written some days before, telling him of my coming, reaching him about ten minutes after my arrival. This gentleman, the son of a clergyman in Dorsetshire, England, when with me as pupil led quite an easy life, riding round the farms, and merely carrying out my orders to the respective foremen under him. Here I found him with his farm of 320 acres, at a cost of 5 dols. an acre, nearly all cropped, a good house and buildings well placed, but no soul in the house to cook or do any kind of housework save himself and a single manservant. The first thing was to run about a mile to get extra bread to carry us over

Sunday, when we cooked our supper, and to bed on the floor. My object in recording this is simply to show that, in spite of all these apparent drawbacks, Canada has charms. Here you have a man, in every respect by education at Oxford a gentleman, ploughing his own land, cooking his own food, washing up, making beds, &c., with the help of one manservant, making a fairly good living and thoroughly enjoying the life, in spite of all previous experience of comforts in England, as he told me over the smoking of a short pipe, as we talked well-nigh into Sunday morning. In order to save time, I may here just mention that, finding a letter from England awaiting my arrival here from another old pupil, who is engaged to marry one of my daughters, and asking to be allowed to settle in Canada rather than Australia as before arranged, I sent a cablegram for him to come at once to Clanwilliam. He is now there, and from letters received since, delighted with the country and his new life, and in all probability a section of land will be bought for him. This is the real fact which led up to the absurd reports copied from the Canadian into the English papers. On Sunday evening about half a dozen neighbours—all English gentlemen, educated at collegio—called to see me. They, like my friend, held farms near, followed much the same kind of life, managed to live and improve their position steadily, and were happy and contented with the life.

On the Monday and Tuesday following we drove through the country in my friend's waggon and pair of horses, I paying others to carry on his harvest work in his stead, time being valuable just at this season. We visited first his sister, who has lately left England, from leading a lady's life, hunting in the season, to marry a former acquaintance, a young man, son of a clergyman, also in Dorsetshire, who has 320 acres of land near. I found him, having but a small quantity of land broken for corn this year, gone to assist a neighbour with his harvest, and the wife left at home with one little English servant girl to milk the cows, water the horses, feed the pigs, &c., &c. The house was simply built for a granary, but re-arranged in haste for a temporary house, and a better dinner, better cooked, or in more comfortable quarters, I do not desire than this lady, without any notice, got ready for us.

On the following day we visited another friend, also farming 320 acres, who had married a Canadian lady. Here we had good fare in the greatest comfort, which at once convinced me that Canada without a wife is a very poor place indeed. My earnest advice to a settler is, "Get at once a good wife, and you will have then little to desire."

During the two days we visited many farms, on all of which the owners were busy stacking wheat, and we had to hear tales of much of it being more or less frosted, causing disappointment. I fear, however, that this largely arises from the advantages of early seeding and better farming not being thoroughly appreciated; but I am glad to say that I was afterwards told that on threshing the damage was less than anticipated. The old tale was told from former bankers' clerks, sailors, and gentlemen alike—"We have to rough it, and meet with many

reverses, but prefer farming here with it all to our original occupations." You wonder sometimes, thinking can they really mean what they say, but as you become better acquainted with the country you understand and believe. To prove that this kind of life in no way tends to lower a man's natural tastes and instincts, my friend said to me in the midst of a dense forest, where we had lost our trail, and had just managed to get our waggon and horses over four large trees which had fallen across our way, a wolf passing us the while, "I do miss, Mr. Simmons, very much indeed my music and literature."

This is a very useful part of the country, with good shooting, plenty of wood and water, and land that will produce for some years' successive cropping 25 to 32 bushels of wheat per acre which can be purchased at from 5 to 7 dols. an acre. My friend left me at Minnedosa on Tuesday night, where I again joined the other delegates on Wednesday morning, going on to Neepawa, our next stop.

Neepawa—an Indian word meaning plenty—is well named, as this is one of the most productive districts we have struck. In 1832 only three houses existed, now it is rather a pretty town of some 600 inhabitants. The land for the most part is a deep, rich loam, and bears wheat from 25 to 40 bushels per acre for many successive years. One farmer told us his crop on 173 acres yielded 26 bushels per acre this season, and his oats and some barley turned out remunerative. Last year he was offered for his wheat in the autumn 115 cents, and sold in the spring for 95 cents only. This district leads away to the Riding Mountains, where a big fire was raging. Much good hay land is hereabouts, and altogether it is a good country and the people are prosperous. At night we joined our car, and awoke next morning at Portage la Prairie, an old settlement of some 3,000 people, and a grand tract of corn-producing land, reaching away for many miles on all sides of the town. Here our party divided, taking different sections of the country. Four large corn elevators and extensive mills are here, and it is quite a sight to witness the constant flow of waggons bringing in wheat, and returning with all speed to the various threshing machines at work in every direction as far as the eye can reach. It is said at least one million bushels of wheat are received here each season. We drove out with a Mr. Sorby to see his farm, 17 miles distant, and passed through a large breadth of country, in which wheat has been grown on the bulk of it ten, fifteen, and even twenty years successively. On asking why the crops generally appeared to have been only moderate this year, we were told the season had been unfavourable; but my own impression was that the land looked exhausted, and that some course of mixed farming must be followed if the crops are to keep up their former yields. Mr. Sorby emigrated from Ontario, bought two sections (1,280 acres) of unbroken prairie and half a section of hay land, at a cost of about 20 dollars an acre. This is his second crop only. He had 830 acres of wheat, 23 bushels per acre, allowing for shed corn, owing to not being able to cut in time, and some frosted wheat; and 50 acres of oats, 56 bushels per acre. He intends growing 1,200 acres of wheat and 80 of oats next year, and increasing his reaping machines to ten, in order to cut all in about one week. He has two good houses, good buildings,

and what we had hardly seen in Canada before, a large shed for implements; but he and his family live in Portage la Prairie. His system is to keep few men and horses on the farm, being able to hire any quantity of both in the busy time; only during the winter having a foreman and one other man to pay. He only visits his farm once a fortnight, except during the busy seasons of spring planting, hay-making, harvesting, and autumn ploughing—this lasting about six months from the middle of April. He said he had let 640 acres to a man to plough for 1 dollar 75 cents (7s.) per acre, and the work was being well done. He purposes growing wheat successively for four years, and then planting timothy grass and stocking, rather than having bare fallow. No rick cloths, waggon cloths, thatching, or horse-shoeing being wanted in this country is a consideration. This is, without doubt, the easiest system of farming we have seen, and must pay well for the first few years—the question arises, Will it last? This the present owner cares little about, leaving those who follow him to find it out. My opinion is that the prairie farmers will soon find out that the land will repay better and more careful farming than it now in many cases receives. The land now, including buildings, is worth about 50 dollars an acre; much of it would grow barley, and this will, no doubt, be resorted to as a change of crop.

A paper mill using straw, for which they pay eight shillings per load of 15 cwt. delivered, is in this district, and the company have mills in other parts of Canada. This would appear a rising industry in a country where straw is not valued as a manure. We left Portage on Thursday evening, arriving at Indian Head on Friday morning, and having breakfasted at the Commercial Hotel, went at once over the Government Experimental Farm, carried on here under the management of Mr. Mackay exactly on the same lines as those already described at Ottawa and Brandon, and certainly with equal credit to him as regards skill. The land is of better quality, but the climate more backward. Here an excellent lunch was prepared for our party, and great hospitality shown to us by Mr. and Mrs. Mackay.

We then started to see the world-wide known Bell Farm, formerly consisting of 53,000 acres, but not proving a success, the land was sold, some 13,000 acres being purchased by the then manager, Major Bell, and the remainder by a colonisation society under Lord Brassey. A very heavy storm of rain and hail coming on, we could not do justice to Major Bell's farming, as, unfortunately for him, we entered on the side of his holding on which all his wheat was badly frosted, much standing uncut and horses and cattle feeding on it, and the other cut green and made into stacks for fodder. The storm was so heavy that we turned back, and did not see his finer and better wheats, of which he had grown 1,400 acres, and hoped next year to grow 3,000 acres and 200 acres of oats. We saw at his house, which with the buildings was remarkably good, some good samples of the corn grown this season. The Colonisation Society's Farm comprises 60 sections of 640 acres each, but as it was only started in May last little work has been done beyond the erection of a manager's house, buildings, and cottages. The idea is for English labourers to be assisted

to emigrate, work on the farm for a year, and then settle according to ability on portions of the land unbroken, payments being extended in easy instalments over several years. It will be interesting to see how this experiment answers. We saw some good English Shire horses, and noticed 500 Shorthorn cattle in one field. This neighbourhood is not equal to that we had just left, and as we rejoined our car at three o'clock in the afternoon and travelled towards Regina, we passed through prairie land of rather poor quality, little wood upon it, and very few settlers.

The cost of producing a crop of wheat from sowing to the delivery into the elevator is estimated throughout Manitoba at from 28s. to 30s. an acre.

We reached Regina, but made no stay there this time, going on a 250 miles journey by train to Prince Albert, arriving there on Sunday morning after a somewhat uninteresting travel through a flat prairie country of poor quality and lacking wood and water, but it is said to be better than it looks. A fire was burning for many miles as we passed on over the prairie, the railway track, stations, and the few houses to be seen being protected from the fire by what are called fireguards. This is about six or eight furrows ploughed along each side of the rail and around the houses, which prevents the fire crossing. The effect of the fire gives a very desolate, bleak, barren appearance to the country. At the various stations very large heaps of buffalo bones, collected off the prairie by Indians, and sent, I am told, to England, are to be seen, and the Indians themselves, with horses and quaint-shaped carts, camping very like the old English gipsy a short distance away on the rising ground. A few herds of cattle, flocks of wild geese, ducks, an occasional wolf or fox, startled by our train (the second only, I believe, that has passed up this newly-laid line), completed the picture. Prince Albert contains about 900 inhabitants, and is very pleasantly situated on the River Saskatchewan, the surrounding scenery being very beautiful, and there are some very good houses on the high ground, with the police barracks and nunnery on the hilltop. We were taken in carriages for a circuitous drive through the country of 35 miles, calling at various farms and inspecting the grain. Some of the wheat was frosted, probably owing to late sowing, but the barley was of good quality. So far as we could judge, this district is more calculated for ranching than corn-growing at present, having no market; but the line now open, and should eventually the contemplated line from the Northern Pacific be made, it would grow rapidly into an important settlement. We heard of much good corn land and fine hay country in the opposite direction to the one we took, and the whole is well sheltered, with wood and water, and affords good shooting and sport of all kinds. I fancy this part of the country must wait a few years till more accessible districts are taken up.

We left on Monday morning on our return journey, calling at Duck Lake, and driving out through a wide extent of prairie, with apparently little stock on it. A considerable trade in furs and skins is carried on here. Our next stoppage was at Saskatoon, to see some

very fine samples of corn and specimens of roots. Oats were particularly fine, and here it was that a radish was given us weighing nine pounds, of good quality and flavour. We then continued our way, reaching Regina on Tuesday morning in a downfall of rain. Regina, the capital of the North-West Territories, contains about 2,000 people, and was started ten years since; it boasts of little beauty as to situation, being flat, and surrounded by boundless prairie. It is rightly named "Queen City of the Plains." It is a growing city, with several good hotels, churches, banks, and other public buildings, but owing to the heavy rain, the streets were in a wretched condition. We could see little of the country, the weather being so bad, but attended an agricultural exhibition going on in the city. Unfortunately the cattle did not arrive until after we left, but we saw quite a display of excellent corn, grasses, and roots from the Indian Head Experimental Farm, and also others grown by farmers in the neighbourhood, including butter, cheese, wines, pickles, bread, harness, and many other useful things; also needlework, fancy articles, writing, maps, and work done by children. A special exhibition of the productions from the Indian Reserve, including most of the things above mentioned, particularly interested us, and we thought the wheat the best in the whole show. We met many farmers, among them a Berkshire and a Lincolnshire man; all reported favourably of their position and prospects. We were entertained at a grand dinner in the evening by the leading citizens, and afterwards rejoined our railway car, starting during the night for Calgary.

We have noticed throughout Canada mares with foals are worked as before, both for driving and farm purposes, the foals running by the side of the dam; this, coupled with the climate, may account in some measure for the powers of endurance the Canadian horses possess. In England our hard roads would make this impracticable.

On our long ride to Calgary of some thousand miles—chiefly through a wide expanse of prairie land, much of it of somewhat barren appearance, with here and there settlers' houses and occasional herds of cattle and horses, several large lakes, but not a tree to be seen—we met several fellow-travellers, who gave us much useful information; one in particular, a Mr. Stone, manager of eleven farms of 10,000 acres each, much of it being land we were then passing through, acquired by Sir John Lister Kaye, and sold by him to the Canadian Coal, Agricultural, and Colonisation Company. Mr. Stone's experience was that, owing to the frequent droughts, he should in future look rather to horse and cattle ranching than corn-growing, only raising corn sufficient for his own use and requirements. He had suffered this season from frost to the wheat and hot winds in July, which had damaged the oat crop, of which we saw 300 acres being cut for fodder. He had grown 25 bushels of wheat per acre. He had 400 mares, and imported Shire and thoroughbred stallions, and endeavoured to keep them out all winter on the prairie, sometimes without any hay being given them. He also had 23,000 merino ewes, crossed with Cheviot, Shropshire, and Leicester rams, which seemed to me must lead to a mixed medley of mongrel sheep, unless the pure strains are imported. Ewes cost 14s. each, and he sold lambs at 11s. each. He clipped this season 50 tons of

wool, which sold at 7½d. per lb. unwashed. Foot-rot is unknown. The sheep have to be housed at night all the winter against the wolves, 500 of these animals being killed annually. One shepherd attends 2,000 sheep. This housing is a drawback to profitable sheep-farming. He had in all 700 horses and over 7,000 cattle of the Shorthorn and Polled Angus breeds on the respective farms and ranches. He prefers the Berkshire breed of pigs to Yorkshire or any other breed yet tried. Water can be got at about 60 feet, and the wells are worked by windmills.

General Grant was another gentleman who, with his son, was seeing the country West. His son was settled at Griswold, 25 miles from Brandon; had lived two years with a farmer, then homesteaded a half-section; had since taken up another half-section and additional hay land; and having now a partner in a young Englishman, they had added a livery stable business, and appeared to be doing well. The General returned with us on the "Parisian" to England, pleased and delighted with his son's success and Canada generally.

We arrived on Thursday morning, 9th October, at Calgary, the capital of the important district of Alberta. It is a thriving town of about 5,000 people, situate at the junction of the Bow and Elbow Rivers, commanding grand views of the Rocky Mountains. We were received at the Alberta Hotel by the mayor and others, and at once started for a long ride to see the country, and called at a large farm held by a gentleman who with his brother combines this with land in British Columbia and a large business as butchers. We saw grazing on the prairie a herd of 120 bullocks of mixed breeds ready for slaughter, and they appeared to be doing well. We also saw a small flock of Merino sheep. Not much corn is grown excepting oats and barley for home consumption. Threshing was then going on with a horse power machine worked by 12 horses, a novel sight to us. The yield was satisfactory, being about 56 bushels per acre.

After luncheon we returned to Calgary by another route, through a good ranching country, fording the rivers, and calling at a woollen manufactory, where we saw good rugs and blankets produced from the wool grown in the district.

The following morning it was arranged to divide our party, some staying to do the Agricultural Show being held in Calgary, while six of us left at eight o'clock in a four-horse rig for a two days tour through the fine ranching district stretching out towards the foot of the Rockies. We passed over more than 100 miles of country, seeing several noted horse and cattle ranches, and returned to Calgary the following day, much pleased with the enormous resources of this vast Alberta Province generally. Without doubt, opened up as it now is by the Canadian Pacific Railway and other lines in formation to the Edmonton, Lethbridge, and other districts containing an untold area of land suitable for corn-growing, dairying, and grazing purposes, together with an abundance of timber, coal, and valuable minerals, this will fast become one of the great centres of Canadian trade and prosperity.

We left for Banff during the night, arriving there on Sunday



morning, where we spent a quiet day, getting our fill of this our first actual view of the Rockies and visiting the sulphur spring baths. The scenery is simply magnificent, and as we journeyed on at daybreak on Monday morning for our next stopping-place, New Westminster, the views that met our eyes on every side and at every point filled us with awe and admiration. To attempt a description of the ride through the Rockies would fill a volume, and must be made to be thoroughly understood. I can only say we occupied a place in the observation car the greater part of the time, and, although the whole journey strikes you as possessing more than the ordinary elements of danger, you become entranced with the nobleness of the everlasting hills, and almost regret finding yourself once more in the open country beyond.

We reached New Westminster on Tuesday afternoon. It is situated very prettily on the Fraser River, contains about 7,000 people, and from the building and improvements now going on is evidently thriving, and every effort is being made to increase the trade and add to the growing importance of the town. The lumber mills here are extensive, and well repaid us for a visit; also the various salmon canneries on the Fraser. This has become an enormous industry, Messrs. Ewing's establishment alone working 400 hands in the factory and an equal number fishing, and turned out this season 25,000 cases of 48 one lb. tins of salmon in each case. The season lasts from about the 10th of July to the end of August. The Fraser River abounds in salmon; but throughout British Columbia salmon will not rise to a fly, they are all netted. We took a steamboat to Ladner's Landing, some few miles down the Fraser, and had a short drive into the rich delta district. This is an immense tract of land said a few years since to be worth only a dollar an acre, and is now by drainage selling at 50 dollars an acre. It is said to produce 3 tons of timothy grass, 6 to 7 quarters of wheat, and from 10 to 15 quarters of oats per acre, and the samples we saw were of very fine quality. Fruit trees, vegetables, and roots of all kinds simply revel in the rich alluvial soil.

The following Thursday morning we started by road for Vancouver, a distance of 12 miles, through a forest of timber passing belief for multitude and size, many of the Douglas pines being 250 feet high and measuring from 25 to 50 feet in circumference. Fire here, as everywhere else, had ravaged much of it, the whole being in a primeval state, and apparently of little value, as it costs more to clear the land than the timber is worth. This is splendid land cleared of timber, but the labour is appalling. Vancouver is and must become a very important city, from its situation commanding the Pacific trade and commerce. It is only of four years' growth, and already contains 15,000 people. Some very fine hotels, churches, houses, and large shops are in course of erection, but even here the speculator has gone in advance of the demand, and finds he has to wait awhile to realise the large prices paid for the land around.

Lulu Island, distant about ten miles, was visited by us in the afternoon. This ride was through forest as before described, and from its nearness to Vancouver clearing is going on. Lulu Island is another tract of rich land of some twenty-five to thirty thousand acres

in extent. Like the delta, after drainage, it is rich and most productive, and sells for good prices according to situation. The country struck us as somewhat uninviting, and requiring better railways and other



A VIEW IN STANLEY PARK, VANCOUVER.

means of access before it can be fully developed. The climate throughout British Columbia is a good deal like that of England, only not so changeable. We left Vancouver on Friday evening by boat, calling for the night at Nanaimo, and seeing the coal mines there (output daily 1,800 tons, price at pit's mouth, 16s. a ton), then on next morning to Vancouver Island, to Victoria, the capital city of British Columbia. The mayor and corporation received us on arrival, and after taking up our quarters at the Driard Hotel, were driven round the city and public park, calling on Lieutenant-Governor Nelson, a very genial, intelligent man, in our round, and visiting the public buildings and museum of the natural productions of the province; afterwards a dinner was given in our honour, and a most enjoyable evening spent. On Sunday we drove out into the country, calling at various farms on our way. The quantity of fruit hanging on the trees, chiefly apples and

pears, struck us as very wonderful; the trees were literally broken down with the weight of fruit, and little or no demand for it, hardly worth the expense of gathering. Frost had spoilt some of the backward grapes and plums. On Monday, being unable to leave the island owing to an accident to the boat, we rode out about four miles by the electric cars to Esquimalt, and saw the large dry docks and other places of interest there. This island seems more adapted for small occupations; vegetables and poultry, with milk and butter, are always wanted, and command good prices. Butter is two shillings a pound, eggs twopence each, milk fivepence a gallon, and fowls four shillings each just now. The land is rich, but much of it heavily timbered. Victoria contains about 25,000 people, and the houses and buildings are good; the appearance of the whole city denotes wealth and comfort, and is altogether worthy of being the capital.

We left Monday evening for Vancouver, and, rejoining our railway car, commenced our homeward journey, visiting by boat from New Westminster down the Fraser the Sumas Valley, a large district of some 20,000 acres of land available for grazing and corn-growing; the lower lands are alluvial deposits of many feet in depth, and of great richness. Here we saw an extraordinary crop of apples in all quarters, and the land was being cleared of the timber on the higher lands and settlements made. We saw here some very good farm buildings, and went over several cheese dairies apparently doing well. There were good Shorthorn cattle and some well-bred young horses in the pastures. We remained the night at Chilliwack, and then drove through more of the low lands, crossing the river near the Government Experimental Farm at Agassiz; this had not long been started, and the day being wet, after witnessing the system employed to remove the roots of trees, &c., in clearing, we took our railway car, and bid adieu to British Columbia.

We could not for want of time visit the Okanagan and Similkameen Valleys, a district not yet opened up by railway, but said to be 300,000 acres of the finest land for mixed farming in Canada. Much of it is already settled, but large quantities are still owned by speculators waiting for their time. We were told that last season 120 tons of twine, for the machines to bind the corn with, was used in this district alone.

Our next stay was for one hour at Medicine Hat, to see the North-Western Territories Hospital, erected by Mr. Niblock, a fine building well arranged, and the comfort and cleanliness of the inmates, 17 in number, cared for in every way. Two wards were furnished by the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, and are named after them respectively. On Sunday morning we reached Wolseley, a small town of about 200 people, and, under the guidance of Mr. Senator Perley, we drove in different directions through the surrounding country, visiting the settlers as we passed. The good wives of Wolseley were much disturbed by our taking their husbands out on the Sunday morning, but we made a compromise, and all went to church in the evening. There is a very large tract of land here awaiting settlement, and can be bought cheap. The land is much of it of good quality, but lies

exposed and more fit for ranching. Others of our party reported more favourably of the district they saw, and thought it favourable for mixed farming.

The Qu'Appelle Valley, formerly the bed of the river, is very pretty and productive. About 50 German settlers, with their families, had just reached here from Dunmore, near Medicine Hat, where the season had proved too dry for them, and they had exchanged for land near Wolseley. From here we went on to Moosomin, a town of about eight years' standing and 800 people, and one that will continue to increase and improve. I should recommend, from all we saw in a long drive through it, this district to the notice of settlers for mixed farming; the land is of good quality, easily cleared, with plenty of wood and water, and to be had in large or small quantities, at a reasonable cost. We saw some good crops of wheat, but little damage done by frost, and the yield was reported good. We went over the schools, and in the evening were entertained by the mayor and corporation and other friends at a dinner. We left the following morning, making our way to Winnipeg, and thence by a short run into the States by the St. Paul, Minneapolis, and Manitoba Railway, returning by Niagara, into the Province of Ontario, being taken in hand at Hamilton (45,000 inhabitants) by Mr. Blue, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, and a Mr. Hobson, of Masborough. Niagara, like the Rockies, must be seen to be thoroughly appreciated. I will only now say, after four hours' careful viewing, I was charmed with the whole scene, and on leaving regretted that possibly it was for ever. After visiting an electro-plate manufactory and other places of note, we took train for Brantford, where we remained the night. During the evening we attended a meeting of the Board of Trade, and were introduced to many of the leading men, afterwards going home with the President for a short interview and light refreshment. Starting early the next morning, we went out about three miles to see the Bow Park Farm, occupied by Messrs. Nelson, consisting of 1,000 acres of very productive land, well and highly farmed on the mixed system of husbandry. Here, owing to the milder climate, autumn-sown wheat is practised and was looking very proud, and a better plant of young grass seeds I have seldom seen in any country. The buildings are ample and very extensive, and the herd of Shorthorns is second to none in Canada; in fact, they would compete favourably with many of our best English herds. Unfortunately the manager, Mr. Hope, was from home, acting as judge at the Chicago Horse Show, where we had previously met him. A particularly good lot of young heifers, now being served by a young bull of prime quality bred on the farm, look like maintaining the prestige of the herd. The autumn-sown wheat this year yielded 32 bushels per acre. On our return journey, we visited the Mohawk Church, where Captain Joseph Brant was buried, and afterwards saw a very handsome monument erected to his memory in Brantford. He was an Indian chief, very loyal to the English Crown at the time of the American Rebellion. He died in 1807.

After seeing several agricultural and other manufactories in Brantford and visiting the House of Refuge and an Asylum for the

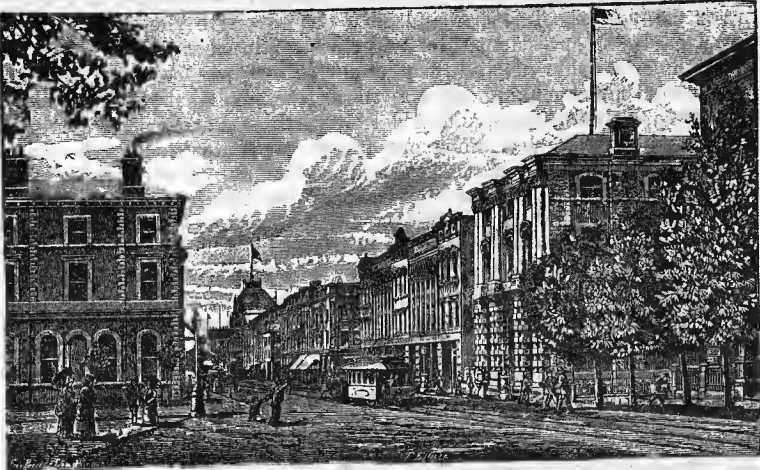
Blind a few miles out, our party divided, I and one other delegate going on with Mr. Hobson to Paris (5,000 inhabitants), passing through a country of mixed farming, very like many parts of England, good houses and homesteads, and land fenced in, fairly well farmed. We were told much of it could be bought at from £10 to £15 an acre. Twenty-five bushels of wheat per acre was about the average yield this season. We called on one or two farmers, and all gave a favourable report of the district.



AN ONTARIO FARM.

We left Paris for Woodstock (9,500 inhabitants), reaching there about 7 o'clock in the evening. The following morning we drove through a fairly good country, making our first stop at Mr. Green's, of Ennerick, a Welsh gentleman. He has a very nice house and good premises, with well-timbered park-like grounds and entrance drive. Purchased by Mr. Green eight years since at 55 dollars an acre, he now would sell with all improvements at 75 dollars an acre (£15). He has two daughters and three sons, and, although quite ladies and gentlemen, they appear to do most of the work, and I have seldom had a better lunch or more comfortably served. Mr. Green has a small herd of pure-bred Shorthorns, a nice flock of Shropshire sheep, a few good Shire-bred horses, and some pedigree pigs. The Yorkshire pigs, said to be of Mr. Sanders Spencer's breed, do little credit to their breeder. We next visited a neighbouring farm, owned by Mr. Donaldson, of about 400 acres, with good house and buildings; a very nice herd of pure-bred Shorthorns, with a good bull in service,

and a good flock of Shropshire sheep. Mr. Donaldson has three sons who have left Ontario for the West, purchasing 320 acres each in Manitoba, in the Brandon district, and they are doing well. His reason for this is that young men can start cheaper in Manitoba than in an old province like Ontario. We returned to Woodstock, going on by train to London for the night, where a Mr. J. Gibson, of Delaware, joined us. London is a nice town of some 35,000 inhabitants.



A VIEW IN LONDON, ONTARIO.  
(Richmond Street, looking south.)

We left in the early morning to drive out to Mr. Gibson's farm at Delaware, about 18 miles by the route we took, passing through a fairly good country, with good fences, houses, and buildings. In many places the old original log hut could be seen standing at the rear of the new, substantial, well-built, brick residence. All the houses had gardens and trees planted around, giving them a homelike and English appearance. Some of the land looked light and sandy, but the wheat all showed what we should call at this season gay. Mr. Gibson's is a well-built, good-looking house, approached through well planted and kept grounds, with good buildings, and about 300 acres of productive land, farmed on the English system chiefly. He has a herd of pure Shorthorns of the most fashionable strains of blood, and one cow in particular struck us as really the best we had seen in Canada; a very choice flock of Shropshire sheep, and Berkshire and Yorkshire pedigree pigs. He is himself a Lincolnshire man, and has crossed the Atlantic 33 times, and boasts of having been in every county in England save two. Altogether, he is a successful farmer, and a man of the right stamp all round. Delaware is a very pleasantly situated village on the banks of the River Thames. We returned by another road to London, passing through a poorer district not so well farmed, remaining in London the night, and being again joined by the rest of our party, who

had taken an opposite direction through the province, and returned delighted with all they had seen. Shooting in Ontario is claimed by the respective owners as in England. On Saturday morning we all left by train for Guelph, in order to see the Agricultural College there, passing through a useful mixed-farmed district, but much of it apparently wanting draining and capable of better farming, good houses and buildings everywhere, and land fenced. On arriving at Guelph we found it was market day, so we first inspected the market and talked with many of the farmers, and then passed on to the college, being received by the president, Mr. Mills. After luncheon, we were shown over the establishment, and then conducted over the farm, and saw the system of butter-making and the respective small herds of Shorthorn, Hereford, Polled Angus, and Alderney cattle. A very fine Hereford bull, bred by the Queen, took our fancy, but unfortunately he was a bad stock-getter. Experiments are carried out in crossing the various breeds, and in all the Shorthorn sire produced the best results. Some useful lambs bought in the fall, feeding off rape, looked like paying fairly well. All sheep are housed in the winter. The quality of the wheat grown was inferior. This college is conducted on very sound practical and economical principles, and every encouragement is given to the pupils, numbering at this time 80, to do good manual work on the farm, for which payment is made according to ability; and it is possible for hard-working young men to clear the fee of £20, paid by those born in Ontario annually, by their own industry during their stay in the college. The whole system is sound and worthy of all encouragement.

We now made our way back to Toronto, from thence to Ottawa, where we were entertained at a dinner given by Mr. Carling, the Minister of Agriculture, the mayor, and corporation, and on the morrow took our leave and journeyed on to Montreal, from thence next day to Quebec, embarking on the good ship "Parisian" for England.

Having thus briefly described our long travels through this vast and interesting country of Canada, I will end my report by a summary of the conclusions I have arrived at as to the capabilities, from an emigration point of view, of the whole country generally.

The first thing to impress on emigrants is, that unless they are prepared to work, and for a time, at any rate, forget the luxuries of life in England, they had far better remain at home. This at first may seem hard and discouraging, but against this stands the fact that throughout our travels, no matter how unfavourable the surroundings appeared, we never heard man or woman regret their coming to Canada, or wish to return to England other than on a visit to see friends. The first year is often trying, but afterwards they become accustomed to the country and people, and everyone is happy, contented, and for the most part fairly prosperous. We met several settlers who had gone home after a short stay disgusted, but finding no place in the old country had returned and were doing well. Very little complaint was made to us about the climate; no one denies its being cold in the winter, but the atmosphere is clear, dry, and bracing, and so different

to our variable, moist English climate, that most people prefer it. The seasons, both summer and winter, can be calculated on as to their respective duration, and consequently every care and provision made. The summer, lasting only from about the middle of April to the end of October, is a time of bustle and constant strain from the time the crops are put in until they are harvested; then follows winter, during which to a great extent labour is suspended, and an immense amount of good fellowship and enjoyment goes on throughout the country.

I would advise intending emigrants to go out and obtain work, which can easily be got in summer, and to look around before deciding as to their future. I say to all, "If you are doing fairly well at home, there remain; but if you happen to be one of the very many for whom no place here seems open, or from some cause or other have missed their mark or been met by misfortune, then take my word for it, a home can be found in Canada." The industrious labourer, skilled or otherwise, can always find remunerative employment. The gardener or small dairyman would have no difficulty in British Columbia. The man with only £100 would find homesteads ready to be entered on in many parts of Manitoba and other parts hereinbefore described; and the man with larger means can find there also any quantity of land, either for corn-growing or ranching, that with industry and good management will soon make him happy and independent. It may be that many a good man will say, "I should not mind a rough life myself, but could not subject my wife and children to it." To such a one I would say—assuming that he has a fair amount of money—"Take a good section of land, and leave for awhile your family in the nearest town till some of the rough work is done." I found men doing this at 10 and 15 miles distance from the town with success. But after all, the rough life, as it is called, has its own peculiar charm, and I saw mothers and daughters who had lived in the greatest luxury in England perfectly contented in their log hut, while a better house was building, with no domestic help whatever beyond their own family.

Another plan, and to many emigrants with capital at command I would very strongly recommend it, would be to go into the Province of Ontario, which embraces an area of 182,000 square miles—much of it very productive land—and seek out one of the many desirable farms constantly to be bought at from £10 to £20 an acre, with good houses, buildings, and fences, and land all under cultivation, and where every comfort of life can be obtained and enjoyed just as easily and more economically than in England. The Ontario farmers prefer selling their holdings and sending their families, if not going themselves, to the rougher life of the Far West; and these, from their experience of earlier years, make good settlers—so making openings in many parts of Ontario for the class of emigrants described above.

In England, although from sheer necessity a change is taking place in this respect, laborious manual field labour has been regarded as a degradation; in Canada it is really a passport to society. Wheresoever we went, the hardworking well-to-do settler (and the two things are usually found to follow each other) was received by every Canadian, no matter what his own position in life was, as a brother, to whom

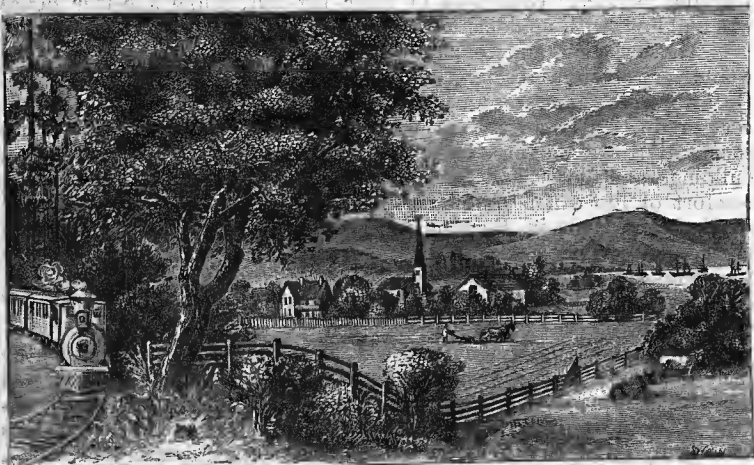


they were ever ready to give honour and respect. The same remarks apply equally to the wives and children.

To the capitalist Canada offers great advantages, and large percentages can be obtained on good security. The only men not wanted in Canada are the dissolute and idle; any such on getting there will be grievously disappointed. I never saw a beggar or was solicited for alms throughout the country. Another objectionable class is that of sons of gentlemen with any amount of money at command, who neglect their occupations, loaf about town, lose their capital, and so get the country a bad name. Of course, there are many exceptions, and educated gentlemen have succeeded, but you will find they were sent out with little money, and left to find their feet in the new country before money was supplied them from home.

For my own part, I can truthfully say I never met with more civility, hospitality, and kindness than I did throughout Canada at every point and from every class of her people, to all of whom I shall feel ever deeply indebted. To the various railway and steamship companies who so generously studied our comfort and convenience my thanks are gladly rendered, and especially to the Hon. Mr. Carling and the various deputies under him, not forgetting our friend and courier, Mr. Campbell, for attentions and considerations throughout our long and somewhat eventful journey that time can never efface. I left Canada with regret, although naturally glad to make for home after a three months absence; and as it appears likely that some of my family will settle there, I cannot altogether help cherishing the idea that at some future time I may make a second visit.

May the visit of the delegates prove of mutual advantage to both countries by causing reliable information to be made known and Canada better understood; then, I feel sure, a fair share of our surplus population will go out, to find in that vast, but thinly populated, country, happiness and prosperity.



IMPROVED FARM, NOVA SCOTIA.

M<sup>c</sup>Corquodale & Co., Limited, Cardington Street, London, N.W.













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